Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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29 DAYS before federalization

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend any of the candidate forums and debates being held in the runup to the Nov. 7 elections?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of October 29, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Car Bombing
Suspected militants exploded a car bomb in a market crowded with women and children Wednesday, killing 105 people.

ASIA...Page 25

Miley Stalker
A grand jury on Wednesday refused to indict a 53-year-old man jailed since August on charges that he tried to stalk Miley Cyrus.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 32

Mobil Oil mirrors Shell's 10-cent gas price increase. **PAGE 3**
Ex-boyfriend allegedly assaults female Rota cop. **PAGE 5**

TINIAN'S $1M LOAN REQUEST

'Loan may be unconstitutional and could trigger taxpayer suit'

Legal opinion sought 'after' local bill passed

SPOOKY
Jonathan Mendoza and his 1-year-old daughter Chiara Lei look at Halloween effigies through the glass wall of the National Office Supply along Beach Road in Garapan yesterday afternoon. Retail stores have always seen a surge in the sale of costumes days leading to Halloween, which is an annual holiday celebrated on Oct. 31. It is strongly associated with symbols like the jack-o'-lantern and activities like trick-or-treating and attending costume parties.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) questioned the Marianas Public Lands Trust's "quick" approval of Tinian's up to $1 million loan request, saying it may have violated the CNMI Constitution's prohibition on public indebtedness and government borrowing and could trigger taxpayer lawsuits.

Sablan

See LOAN on Page 4

Fitial extends CUC emergency declaration anew

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial extended for another 30 days the declaration of a state of disaster emergency at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., without much change from the previous declaration.

Fitial

In his Oct. 27 executive order, Fitial warned anew of a manpower shortage, as well as management crisis at CUC in the absence of a proper board or chief executive officer structure.

See FITIAL on Page 4

Doromal: Regs seem reasonable, accommodating

Dekada Movement counsel notes positive aspects to regs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Human rights advocate Wendy Doromal has welcomed the Department of Homeland Security's interim final rule on the transitional worker program, which she said appears to be reasonable and gener-

See DOROMAL on Page 4

SUBMIT COMMENTS

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov
- E-mail: rfs.regs@dhs.gov
- Mail: Chief, Regulatory Products Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 111 Massachu- setts Avenue, NW., Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529-2210

Q & A

Continued from yesterday

Q. Can domestic workers receive CW-1 transitional worker status under this program?

A. Yes, but they must be sponsored by an eligible employer doing business in CNMI as described above.

See Q&A on Page 4

Local

NMC gubernatorial forum draws over 150 students

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Over 150 individuals, mostly students, attended last night's gubernatorial forum at the Northern Marianas College, which featured just two of the four contenders for the post.

Only Covenant Party standard bearer Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Republican Party bet Heinz Hofschneider were present at the forum but their two independent opponents were represented by their lieutenant governor partners, Joseph Camacho for Juan Pan Guerrero and David Borja for Ramon Deleon Guerrero.

Lt. governor candidates Eloy Inos and Arnold Palacios were also seen in attendance.

The Associated Students of NMC, in collaboration with the Current Issues class of instructor Sam McPhetres, organized the event to give students the opportunity to listen to the candidates. NMC is home to over 800 students, including foreign enrollees.

In last night's forum, the candidates fielded 12 questions in four categories: education, economy, social, and environment.

Sophomore Waedynne Maratita said she was able to come up with a decision on which tandem she will vote for after hearing the discussions. Last night was her first time to attend a gubernatorial forum.

"I was really counting on this event…and I am glad I heard about their plans. Honestly, I was in the dark but after hearing the discussion, I have made my decision," she said.

Maratita is also counting on the "pledges" made by each candidate to put NMC among their priorities and plans once elected to office and supports the candidates' plan of encouraging island scholars to come back and serve the Commonwealth after graduating.

Marc Hoson, a freshman, admitted that among the panelists he admired most was Joseph Camacho, who represented Juan T. Guerrero.

"I believe in his ideas…and for me he presented good and realistic visions," he said, adding that for now, he's considering giving his full support to the tandem.

"I want their plans about reducing the size of government, their plans of prioritizing NMC, and their intention to bring progress to the island," he said.

A group of sophomore students said they admire the "truthfulness" of the facts presented by Fitial when asked about the sacrifices he made for the people.

Fitial, during the discussion, cited the austerity measures he immediately implemented upon assuming the position in January 2006.

ASNMC president Miles Rodriguez was elated with the turnout of forum, saying that after the candidates' presentations students were able to distinguish who deserve to get their vote of confidence.

NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez encouraged the audience to take advantage of the opportunity to know more about the four individuals who are aspiring to become the island's chief executive officer.

Others in attendance were members of the Legislature, faculty staff, and community members.

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Mobil Oil mirrors Shell's 10-cent gas price increase

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Three weeks after a 10-cent price rollback, Mobil Oil Marianas and Shell Marianas raised their pump prices also by 10 cents a gallon on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively.

The rollback and the succeeding increase bring the prices of gasoline on Saipan back to what they were prior to Oct. 7.

Mobil increased its pump prices by 10 cents at 9pm on Wednesday, mirroring Shell's price increase on Tuesday even as the price of crude hovered around $77 a barrel on Wednesday after jumping to a 12-month high of $82 last week.

Del Camacho, a Kagman resident, said the 10-cent a gallon increase in gas price will cost her more money to fill up her Toyota Hilux.

"It's not that long ago when they lowered the price and now they raised it again same amount. I live in Kagman and I work at the Marianas Resort in Marpi, and that is a long travel and now this price increase. I guess we should expect more of it and we should deal with it," Camacho told Saipan Tribune in an interview at the Mobil service station on Middle Road in Garapan yesterday afternoon.

Because of the 10-cent price increase, regular self-serve gasoline at Mobil and Shell service stations is now $3.479 a gallon.

At Mobil service stations, the price of super self-serve gasoline is now $3.779 a gallon.

Shell's premium self-serve gasoline now retails at $3.799 a gallon.

Diesel at Mobil and Shell stations now retail at $3.649 a gallon.

This is the sixth time this year that Mobil and Shell raised their pump prices. These increases mean that Saipan motorists had been paying 75 cents more a gallon since the first round of increase in 2009 in February.

Senate OKs land compensation, retirement initiatives

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate passed on Wednesday two initiatives, including one that authorizes the Department of Public Lands to reserve up to 20 percent of its operational expense for land compensation payments.

House Legislative Initiative 16-18, HD2 passed on a 6-0 vote with one abstention and two excused absences.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan) abstained, while Senate Vice President Felix Mendiola (Cov-Rota) and Sen. Paterno Hocog (R-Rota) were absent.

The initiative, introduced by Vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), seeks to amend Article XI Section 5(g) of the CNMI Constitution to authorize DPL to use up to 20 percent of its revenue to pay and satisfy land compensation claims.

On a 6-1 vote, the Senate also passed House Legislative Initiative 16-13, HD2 which prohibits any increase in retirement benefits until all government obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund have been satisfied or the system is fully funded.

Introduced by Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider (R-Saipan), the initiative seeks to amend Article III Section 20 of the CNMI Constitution.

On Wednesday's session, Crisostimo voted no on the initiative while the six other senators present at the session voted yes.

The two initiatives, however, will not be included in the Nov. 7, 2009 elections but in the next polls.

Health care corporation bill

All the seven senators present at the session also voted yes on House Bill 16-9, HS1, SD2, which establishes a public corporation for healthcare and related public health services known as the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation.

The bill, introduced also by Hofschneider, along with House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), seeks to establish a public corporation to coordinate the delivery of quality healthcare to all CNMI residents in a financially responsible manner.

Hofschneider, during gubernatorial debates, said passage and enactment of his bill into law, would have solved a lot of the problems at the Department of Public Health.

"The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation is intended to be a professionally managed, nationally accredited, independent public healthcare institution that is as financially self-sufficient and independent of the Commonwealth government as is possible," the 18-page bill said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is likely to sign the bill into law, considering that during gubernatorial debates, he had been saying that he supports the bill that his opponent, Hofschneider, introduced.

Fitial declared a health emergency for the CNMI that will pave the way for DPH to hire physicians from countries outside the U.S. and Canada to help address doctor shortage at the government-run Commonwealth Health Center.

5-day head Start training set

The Head Start Compliance Institute will provide a five-day training to the entire Head Start staff, Policy Council, grantee leadership team, and SBOE members on Nov. 2-6, 2009.

This training aims to provide everyone with the information needed to prepare for the 2009-'10 federal review by understanding the 2009 Office of Head Start Monitoring Protocol tools. It will focus on the 11 areas to be assessed during the triennial federal review process: health, nutrition, safe environments, transportation, disabilities, mental health, family and community services, education, fiscal, program design and management, and eligibility, recruitment, selection, enrollment and attendance. ***(PR)***

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Ben Fitial Eloy Inos 2009

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DOROMAL

From Page 1

ally accommodating.

Dekada Movement counsel Stephen Woodruff said he is still reviewing the regulations, but he noted many positive aspects to the rules.

In an e-mail interview, Doromal stressed that the transitional worker program was meant to be temporary, so it would be in the best interest of alien workers, businesses, and entire community to ask Congress to grant permanent U.S. status for alien workers.

"This would ensure a stable and skilled workforce, save the costs of running a guest worker program, spare employers and employees from employment-related fees and the application process, and would allow a free-market system that would encourage economic growth," she said.

The interim final rule, Doromal said, is surprisingly liberal in some areas such as waivers for fees and allowing the spouses and minor dependents of CW-1 workers (Commonwealth-only Transitional Worker) into the CNMI.

Doromal said the purpose of the rule is to allow the CNMI to transition to the federal immigration system under the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act.

The rules, she said, ensure that during the five-year transition period, the needed workforce would be available.

"Even through the transition period could be renewed, I doubt that it will be," Doromal said.

She was also pleased to see the DHS' concern with certain categories of workers that have high incidences of human trafficking, exploitation and abuses. She said she will be submitting comments about that issue.

She said it was noteworthy that the rules mentioned human trafficking, saying, "The rule would help protect foreign workers in the CNMI from abuses such as human trafficking and other illicit activity."

If CNMI businesses require cultural dancers, strippers, bar girls or similar categories of workers, they should hire residents for these jobs, she stressed.

Woodruff told *Saipan Tribune* that he has not formed a complete opinion on the rules because he is still reviewing them.

However, the CW status is a good way to make the transition to regular U.S. immigration status, he said, adding that this is the goal of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act and the regulations.

Woodruff said people who rely on household help to care for disabled and elderly family members will need to make a significant adjustment, because households cannot hire CWs.

"They will have to use workers still under the CNMI system through umbrella permits or get the help they need from an agency in the business of supplying such help. The cost of such help will undoubtedly rise," Woodruff said.

Q&A

From Page 1

Q. What does a CNMI employer need to demonstrate in its petition for a transitional worker?

A. A petition must be accompanied by evidence demonstrating the petitioner meets the definition of eligible employer, and must attest that: qualified United States workers are not available to fill the position; the employer is doing business as defined in the rule; the employer is a legitimate business as defined in the rule; the worker has the qualifications for the position (including an occupational license, if required for the occupation); the worker, if present in CNMI, is lawfully present in CNMI; the position is not temporary or seasonal employment, and the petitioner does not reasonably believe it to qualify for any other nonimmigrant worker classification; and the position falls within the list of acceptable occupational categories

Q. How many transitional worker visas will be available?

A. For the first year, the numerical limit for CW-1 status will be based on CNMI government's own estimate of the foreign worker population, which is 22,417. The CNRA requires that the number be reduced on an annual basis to zero by the end of the transition period. Therefore, after the first year, the numerical limit will drop, but that number has not yet been determined.

Q. What about spouses and dependents? Can they travel and work?

A. The law allows spouses and minor children of someone in CW-1 nonimmigrant status admission into CNMI as accompanying or following to join the principal CW worker. The rule would adopt the INA's definition of "child" for immigration purposes (other than naturalization in section 101(b)) adding a requirement that the child be under 18 years of age since the statute refers to "minor children" rather than "children." Employment is not authorized for spouses and children of CW-1 nonimmigrants.

Q. Can CW-1 nonimmigrants change status or adjust status?

A. The law allows workers in the CW classification to change to another nonimmigrant status or to adjust status to lawful permanent resident (get a green card) throughout the transition period if they are eligible. The rule allows an alien to be present in, or come to, CNMI for a temporary period as a CW-1 or CW-2 nonimmigrant and, at the same time, seek to become a lawful permanent resident of the United States, as long as the alien intends to depart voluntarily at the end of the alien's authorized nonimmigrant stay. For purposes of qualifying for CW-1 or CW-2 classification, the alien is not required to maintain a residence abroad, and dual immigrant and nonimmigrant intent is allowed.

Q. I am a foreign worker in CNMI. Can I apply directly for CW status without my employer's approval?

A. No, CW status is based upon an employer in CNMI needing your services. Your current or prospective employer must sponsor you by filing a Form I-129CW petition. After that petition is approved, you and your eligible family members can obtain CW status based on the approved petition. *(Source: USCIS)*

To be continued

FITIAL

From Page 1

CUC is a $70 million a year business, critical to the CNMI's economy and public health.

But Fitial said the recently renewed statute organizing CUC places the board of directors in the position of a day-to-day management of the corporation, and requires a complex mix of technical, geographic and other qualifications for board membership.

"There is no board because it has been impossible to meet these criteria. Without the board or its equivalent, CUC cannot take a critical step toward solvency and the ability to borrow to finance its work," he said in his 14-page executive order.

During the Senate session on Wednesday, Sen. Frica Pangelinan (D-Saipan) said the crisis at CUC has already been over.

"It's now a management issue, not a crisis. There's no emergency now," she said, adding that the executive order and the emergency declaration leaves the Legislature with no authority over the CUC issue.

The governor reiterated that a shortage of manpower forced by legislation limiting skilled foreign workers has continued to place CUC operations at risk.

Public Law 16-14 prohibits CUC from hiring any more non-U.S. technical workers than the 19 skilled professionals recently hired.

"CUC has repeatedly asked the Legislature for relief from this statute regulating the government's workforce, to no avail. Further, errors in wording in the CUC enabling legislation recently re-enacted, P.L. 16-17, as amended, would bar the executive director from day-to-day management of the corporation, effectively shutting CUC down. This EO eliminates these problems while it is in effect," Fitial said.

LOAN

From Page 1

At the same time, the Tinian Legislative Delegation and the Tinian Mayor's Office sought a legal opinion on the requested loan after the delegation had already passed Tinian and Aguingan Local Bill 16-03 on Oct. 19, it was learned yesterday.

MPLT approved the loan request during its Oct. 23 board meeting on Tinian, two days after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law the bill that paves the way for Tinian to borrow money from MPLT.

"I am deeply concerned about whether or not MPLT has honored its fiduciary responsibilities in reviewing and approving the Tinian Mayor's request for a loan," Sablan told MPLT chair Phillip Mendiola-Long in a letter yesterday.

Mendiola-Long did not return *Saipan Tribune* calls yesterday for comment on Sablan's letter.

MPLT, however, will have a special board meeting today on Saipan, and the Tinian loan request is one of the items on the agenda.

"I am also extremely concerned that this loan may violate Article X of the CNMI Constitution, and specifically the prohibition in Section 3 on incurring public debt without two-thirds of the affirmative vote of the members in each house of the Legislature, and the prohibition in Section 4 on borrowing for government operations," Sablan said in her letter.

Sablan, who has been championing transparency and accountability in government, also asked MPLT to advise her office "as to why the actions of MPLT and the Tinian Mayor's Office should not trigger taxpayer lawsuits against the government, including lawsuits against the MPLT board members for breaches of fiduciary duty."

Sen. Joseph Mendiola (Cov-Tinian), chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, said a legal opinion is being sought on the Tinian loan request.

In a phone interview yesterday, Mendiola said it is "premature" for Sablan to question the constitutionality of the loan request, adding that she should wait for the release of the legal opinion sought by the delegation and the mayor's office on the issue.

Mendiola said the legal opinion was sought after the delegation passed the local bill.

He also said the local bill was "reviewed for legal sufficiency" by the delegation legal counsel, Antonio S. Cabrera, who is also the Senate legal counsel. Cabrera hung up the phone when called for clarification.

Mendiola said they sought legal opinion from a government lawyer other than Cabrera. Mendiola declined to identify the lawyer at this time.

"Once we get the legal opinion, it would be public record. Tell Rep. Sablan to stick her nose somewhere else and not on Tinian issues. If she wants, she could meet with us on Tinian to discuss issues," Mendiola said.

Sablan, in response, said, "Senator Mendiola's own constituents on Tinian have asked me to look into this matter."

"Instead of reacting defensively, we should all be interested in following the Constitution and upholding our fiduciary responsibilities," she added.

The Tinian Mayor's Office, through Bill Cing, chief executive officer of Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas, provided *Saipan Tribune* a breakdown of the amount for each program and activity to be funded by the loan request.

The amount will go toward payment of municipal employees' retroactive salaries amounting to $520,913.84; another $201,729.96 to pay Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino for expenses related to the 60th anniversary commemoration for the Battle of Tinian in 2004; and $277,356.20 for future scholarships.

Ex-boyfriend allegedly assaults female Rota cop

An off-duty policewoman was injured after a former boyfriend allegedly chased her car and assaulted her while she was inside the vehicle on Rota Tuesday night.

Police Officer Shawnda DLC. Taisacan went to the hospital for treatment of bruises.

Josh Santos Ogo, 23, was arrested for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. A $5,000 cash bail was initially imposed for his temporary liberty. A bail hearing was set yesterday afternoon at the Saipan Superior Court.

Police Sgt. Jonathan DLC. Garces stated in his report that Taisacan called Rota DPS on Tuesday at 11:47pm to report that she was in the hospital after Ogo assaulted her. Taisacan disclosed that her relationship with Ogo ended last month, but he insists on continuing their affair.

The victim said she was driving by the Joe and Son's Store on Tuesday when she met Ogo, who began tailing her. Taisacan said Ogo followed her car in such a reckless manner that he almost collided with her vehicle.

The policewoman said she pulled over at a parking lot of Songao Enterprise Hardware, hoping the defendant would pass her. The defendant, who appeared drunk, also parked his car, approached Taisacan on the driver's side and demanded why she was not responding to his text messages.

The confrontation turned into a tussle, during which Ogo allegedly grabbed Taisacan's shoulder to force her out the car. When Taisacan managed to escape, she drove away and went to the hospital because she felt weak and bruised. She then called police.

The police arrested Ogo on Wednesday at 12:25am. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

'DPH's $746,000 debt with PHI remains unsettled'

The Department of Public Health's $746,000 debt with PHI Pharmacy has yet to be settled, according to PHI vice president Bruce Cohen yesterday.

Cohen said they have been talking and discussing with DPH and the government, but the issue has not been settled.

Cohen said PHI is not planning to file a lawsuit against DPH.

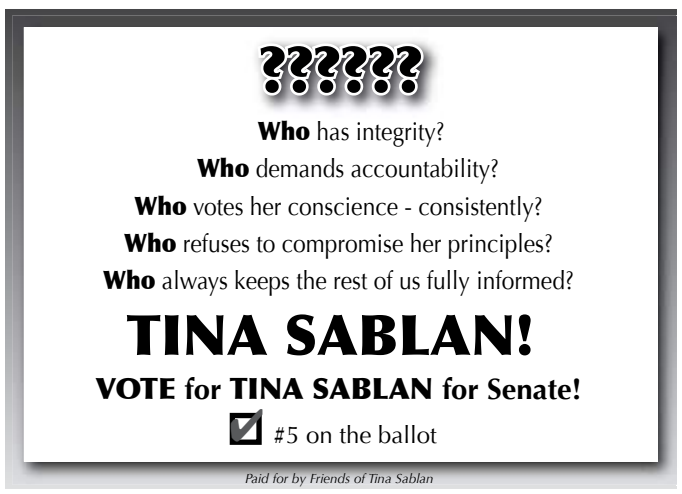
"The negotiation is still ongoing," the vice president stressed.

The debt was reportedly incurred from the Retirement Fund's Government Health and Life Insurance program and Medicaid fees.

Last February, Cohen wrote to Gov. Benigno Fitial to propose a monthly payment plan.

Acting DPH Secretary Pedro T. Untalan had stated that the administration has diligently addressed this liability that was incurred and left unresolved during the past administration.

Cohen in the letter stated that PHI may experience serious problems meeting its financial obligations due mostly to the accounts receivable from both the GHLI and Medicaid patients. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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Public schools turn over $6K for Samoa

FOR SENATOR
PETE P. REYES
WHY NOT!

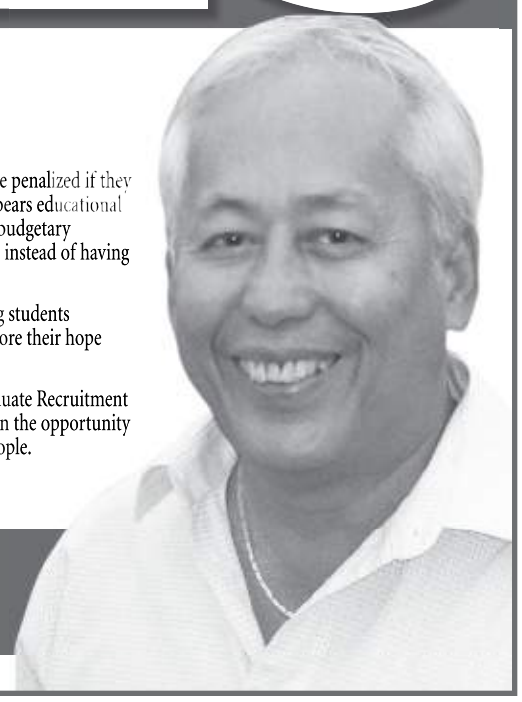
In the **midst of crisis, one man** stands for returning college students.

Senator Reyes feels that students returning to the CNMI in compliance with their scholarship agreement should not be penalized if they make diligent effort to find employment and are unable to do so. He succeeded in the enactment of PL 16-15 that forbears educational financial assistant liability to students that cannot find employment with the government or the private sector due to budgetary limitations or other factors. Force this government to realize a return on its educational investment in its local citizens instead of having Guam and other U.S. territories reap the investment of the CNMI.

Senator Reyes also succeeded in removing the unnecessary obstacles requiring five years work experience for returning students (PL 15-119). How can newly graduated college students have work experience if they can not even get hired? Let's restore their hope for a brighter future, one they've worked hard for and give them something to come home to.

Senator Reyes will continue to push for 5% of the total general revenues to be set aside to fund a Post-Secondary Graduate Recruitment program to hire returning college students into jobs in the government and private sectors. Our students must be given the opportunity to aspire to their full potential so that the government can then realize a return on its educational investment in its people.

A public servant YOU can rely on!



8 REYES, Pete Pangelinan
(Republican)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Senator Pete P. Reyes

Public schools in the Commonwealth turned over yesterday a $6,000 check donation for the tsunami-hit schoolchildren in American Samoa.

The Board of Education led by chair Lucy Blanco Maratita and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan presented the check to Gary Sword, project coordinator for the CNMI Tsunami Drive for American Samoa.

The money will be used to buy school supplies and to rebuild school buildings.

According to Peter Lea'u, Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services, a big bulk of the donation came from Saipan Southern High School, which gave $1,500. San Vicente was the second highest, with $1,200.

All PSS students, he said, participated in the raising the money through the weeklong "Spare a Dollar Drive" campaign launched by PSS.

Other schools, including Rota and Tinian, were also lauded for their contributions.

"I am very happy with the outcome of our fundraising drive. Last Saturday, PSS pledged $3,000 for the relief drive for American Samoans. However, when our finance director reported that we have total collection last night of $6,000 we're very excited," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

According to Sword, the total value of all cash and in-kind donations now amount to $100,000 as of yesterday. These include clothes, food, other items, and shipping costs. Cash donations from individuals, groups, and agencies, including the $6,000 from PSS, totaled over $30,000.

The group will collect donations until Oct. 31, according to Sword.

Containers will be sent to American Samoa on Monday and cash will be sent through Bank of Guam.

Sword said they are coordinating with the American Samoa Rotary Club to distribute these donations.

"All cash and in-kind donations will go directly to children of American Samoa," he said, adding that 8,000 to 10,000 kids are expected to benefit from the CNMI donations.

Sword said five schools in American Samoa were totally washed out by the tsunami on Sept. 29. He said the donation will help rebuild these instructional facilities.

"We thank everybody who supported the drive…this is over and beyond [our expectations]. It turned out very well and people are very supportive. Their generosity is amazing," he added.

School principals and PSS employees were present during yesterday's turnover ceremony at the PSS central office. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

Man on probation arrested anew for domestic violence

A man who is on probation for stealing a check belonging to the Tinian Delegation Office was arrested again on Sunday for allegedly beating up his common-law wife at a farm on Tinian.

Donovan SN Borja, 34, was arrested for kidnapping, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry Inos imposed a $25,000 cash bail for Borja's temporary liberty.

The victim's left eye was swollen. She also had bruises on the arms and chest.

Detective Barbara K. Arend stated in her report that the victim called the Tinian Department of Public Safety on Saturday to report that Borja assaulted her after accusing her of having an affair. She said Borja had beaten her up before.

Last January, Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a five-day prison term on Borja for stealing a check in the amount of $213.50 belonging to the Tinian Delegation Office. Wiseman sentenced Borja to one year in prison, all suspended except for five days, for theft.

Following a plea agreement, Wiseman gave Borja credit for the five days he had already served in jail. The judge placed him under probation. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PSS expands Education Day awards

Grand celebration cancelled for makeup classes

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System has expanded this year's recipients of its Education Day awards with the addition of four new categories, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan yesterday.

From the traditional overall Teacher of the Year, Teacher Aide of the Year, and Support Staff of the Year awards, PSS will for the first time also name awardees for Counselor of the Year, School Administrator of the Year, Related Service Provider of the Year, and Maintenance of the Year.

This will expand the categories for recognition from three to seven.

Despite this, PSS has decided to cancel this year's grand Education Day celebration, slated for Nov. 25. The CNMI usually celebrates Education Month in November each year.

Because of several school days that have been missed since the start of the school year due to typhoons, Sablan said that Education Day will be counted as make-up day for all schools.

"This year, we will be celebrating Education Day differently. Because schools have missed so many instructional days due to typhoons, instead of having the grand celebration, schools opted to make up for instructional days," Sablan said.

However, while on campus, every school is expected to come out on Nov. 25 and take time to recognize their Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Support Staff, and Teacher Aide awardees, as well as the school's

Sablan

achievements.

"Every day is a very special day for our students, teachers, and the PSS community and as far as highlighting anything special for Education Day, we have expanded our incentives to recognize more of our staff by adding more categories this year," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

She said a committee is now working on the prizes and other incentives for the outstanding PSS employees.

PSS has over a thousand employees, including 556 classroom teachers and about 200 teacher aides. The rest are support staffers and maintenance.

The overall winners for the seven categories will be announced by PSS and the Board of Education in a simple ceremony on the evening of Nov. 25.

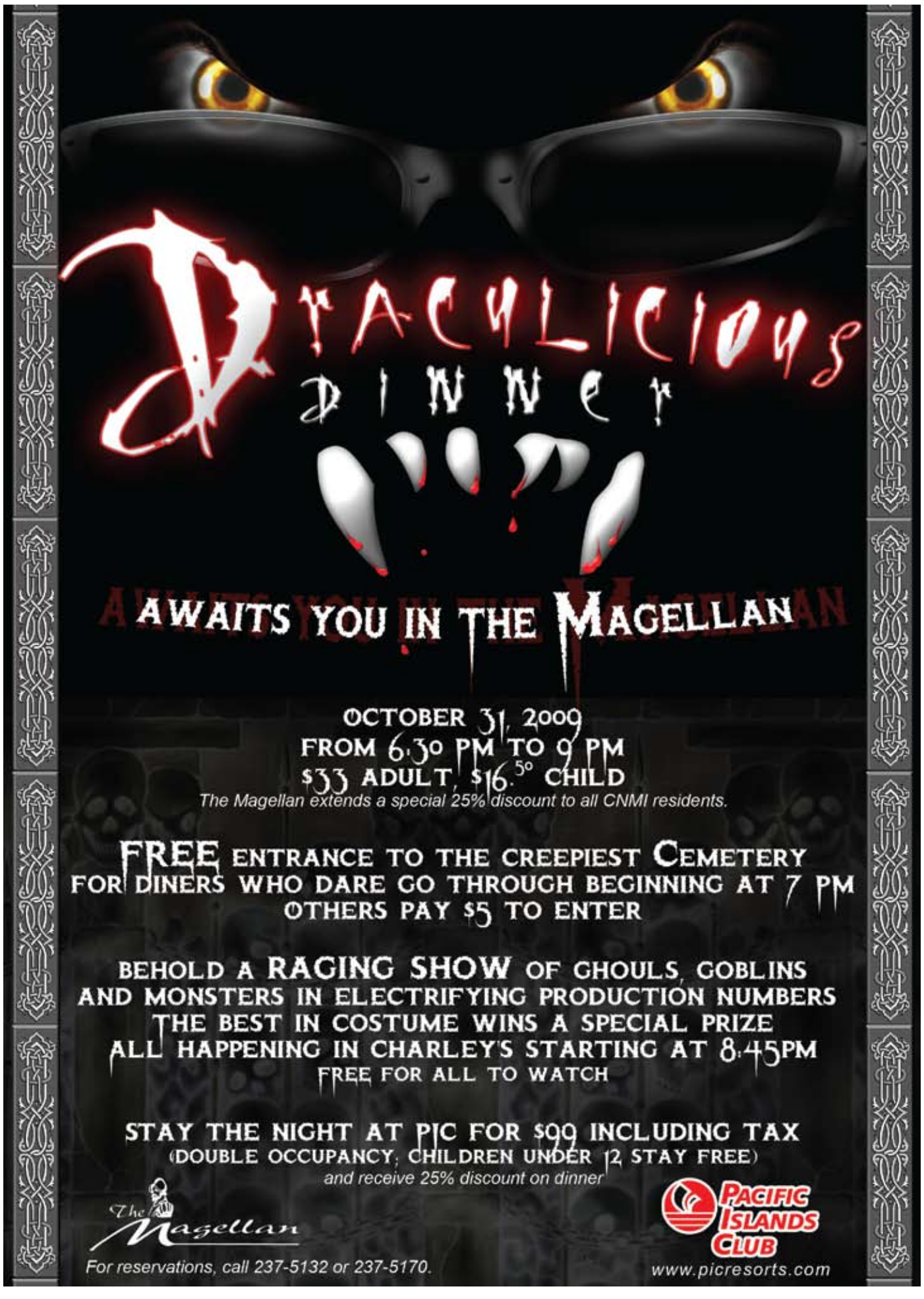
Sablan encouraged Parents-Teachers Associations and the community to join schools in recognizing their achievements. She plans to visit all schools for their individual Education Day celebration.

In past years, PSS marked Education Day with employees gathering in one venue for a grand celebration where each school performs a special presentation. Food is also served during the celebration, courtesy of PSS.

Last year, PSS held its education day event at Dandan Elementary School and named Marianas High School's James E. Phillips as the system's overall Teacher of the Year awardee. As part of his prize, he had the chance to meet with President Obama and represent the CNMI in the national Teacher of the Year competition.

Teacher Aide of the Year for school year 2008-2009 was Kagman Elementary School's Rosa Sablan while Patty Aguon-Cruz was adjudged Support Staff of the Year.

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.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The Magellan extends a special 25% discount to all CNMI residents.
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EFC Engineers and Architects is entering its 21st year of operation in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Our office location is at the Marina Heights Business Park. Bank of Hawaii Building, Suite 206. Contact information is (670) 322-7814 or efrain@efcsaipan.com.

90 days to comment on Guam/NMI buildup EIS

WASHINGTON—Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus informed Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo in a meeting in Washington, D.C. yesterday of the decision to extend the length of time for the public comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the military buildup in Guam.

The extension of the comment period from 45 days to 90 days will ensure the interests of the citizens of Guam are fully represented in the study. Mabus recommended this extension, and it was approved by Deputy Secretary of Defense William Lynn.

The extension responds to requests submitted by U.S. Government Resource Agencies, Gov. Felix Camacho and the Guam Legislature, as well as Bordallo. It balances the need for additional time to review a complex document with the Department of Defense's requirement to complete the military buildup in Guam on a tight schedule.

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment Roger Natsuhara, visiting Guam this week, communicated this decision to Camacho and members of the Guam Legislature.

In a statement, Natsuhara said: "The proposed military buildup on Guam has the potential to be a significant, transforming event for the community. We appreciate the concerns raised by the island's leaders on behalf of the people of Guam and agree that the scope, complexity and magnitude of the buildup necessitates providing ample time for review of the DEIS. This complexity and magnitude are due, in part, to the Department of Defense's desire to ensure that the DEIS presents a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts of the proposed actions on Guam and Tinian. We are committed to ensuring that all interested parties have full opportunity to review and provide comment on the DEIS. Therefore, the Department of Defense decided to set the comment period at 90 days."

Release of the DEIS is planned for Nov. 20 (Eastern Standard Time). The public will be made aware of the release via notice in the Federal Register and local media. These notices will detail where the DEIS can be reviewed, how to electronically access the document, how to submit a comment, and dates and locations of public hearings in Guam and the CNMI. ***(JGPO)***

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now is the time to get it.
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Call customer service at 235-0994 for more information.
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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 30, 2000

Wendy's closes shop today

Wendy's founder Dave Thomas and his line of popular food products are waving Saipan goodbye. In what appears to be a strong indication that the island's economy has been persistently rallying weakly, international food chain Wendy's Restaurant is closing its doors to Saipan customers beginning today. Restaurant insiders said the local company which holds the Saipan franchise for Wendy's is scheduled to file for bankruptcy at the United States federal court within the week.

CNMI sighs temporary relief over minimum wage

House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial on Saturday expressed relief over reports that the U.S. Congress is deferring action on legislation that would raise minimum wage in the CNMI at par with the federal level. But he said the island government would not relax its efforts to block any federal takeover attempt, noting any legislative action in Washington D.C. favorable to the Commonwealth is a result of its lobbying campaign. Reports from the nation's capital have indicated that measures hiking minimum wage across the country, including the CNMI, are not expected to be passed in the next few weeks because of next month's U.S. elections.

Oct. 30, 2001

House rushes budget to Senate

Reflecting grim predictions of plunging revenues next year, the House of Representatives literally scraped the bottom of the barrel yesterday for a dollar here and a dollar there to pass the revised $206.97 million budget measure for fiscal year 2002. This came about yesterday afternoon, even as the Legislature races against the November 3 elections. If the budget measure fails to make it before the polls, a super-majority-or two-thirds of both chambers-would be needed to pass the bill. Unlike previous budget measures where cuts and increases were substantial enough to matter, House Bill 12-423 largely reflected the submission made by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on October 24, with cuts on some programs and agencies amounting to no more than a thousand or so. In some instances, the cuts were only a dollar or two.

Strong waves drag man to sea

Authorities have been scouring the King Fisher cliff line and its surrounding areas since Sunday night in search of a man who was reportedly swept into the water by strong waves. A witness, Felix Palacios, told police that he and his friend, Herberto Guillermo Hipolito, were standing by the King Fisher cliff line when fierce waves pushed them into the water. Though Palacios made it back to the cliff line, Hipolito has unfortunately not surfaced since the October 28 incident. Police officers Anthony Diaz, Stanley Patris and Patrick Togawa, in a preliminary report, said they responded to the distress call and combed the As Teo cliff line waters on board the Department of Public Safety vessel Zodiac II.

Oct. 30, 2002

Mayor to endorse AT Awareness Month

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will endorse November as Assistive Technology Awareness Month during a ceremony scheduled at 9am today at the Multi-Purpose Center, the CNMI Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities announced yesterday. AT project coordinator Celia B. Lamkin said a series of activities that would benefit individuals with disabilities, as well as senior citizens, will be held during the observance of the AT Awareness Month. Lamkin added that the events would also raise awareness on the importance of assistive technology equipment and services for children, students and elders with disabilities.

Bird Island accident victim said critical

The woman who nearly drowned at the waters off the Bird Island Sanctuary Saturday was seriously injured that she had to be admitted at the Commonwealth Health Center's intensive care unit, police said yesterday. The woman, identified as Emerenciana D. Chinen, reportedly had water in her lungs and was suffering from lack of oxygen flow to the brain as a result of the drowning incident. Police spokesman Lt. Pete Muna said the victim and her companions were walking on the reef to the island when a strong current caused her to fall onto the waters. A companion tried to grab the victim's hand but failed to immediately rescue the victim. Another companion, a certain Dani Hosek, jumped to the waters and held the victim who was floating face down, police said.

Voluntary 20 pct. pay cut for top govt officials in budget bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Besides a four-day workweek for all government employees, the Senate-amended budget bill also wants a voluntary 20 percent cut in the salaries of the governor, lieutenant governor, justices, judges and lawmakers to help reduce the projected $15.3 million deficit in Fiscal Year 2010.

"These officials are encouraged to waive 20 percent of their salaries or 16 hours per pay period for the effective period of this Act," said House Bill 16-275, HD2, SS1, SD1 which the Senate passed on a 5-0 vote with two abstentions on Wednesday.

Any portion of the salary waived will remain in the general fund.

The Fitial administration and the House Ways and Means Committee are now reviewing the Senate-amended Fiscal Year 2010 budget bill, especially because of the austerity measures inserted by senators.

Yumul

Under the 40-page bill, all full-time government employees will have 64 work hours per pay period until Sept. 30, 2010.

They include employees of autonomous agencies and municipal entities, and employees funded by federal grants, indirect cost funds, or any federal funding source, unless expressly exempted.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said these austerity measures are not the way to go, adding that the House proposal has already reduced non-personnel costs by almost $10 million, among other things.

Yumul, however, said that he and others appointed to a conference committee will be willing to sit down with their Senate counterparts to come up with a compromise budget bill, if the House rejects the bill.

"We can only reject or accept the Senate bill. We cannot make amendments to it. If we don't accept it, we will go to a conference committee," Yumul said.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said the Fitial administration has supported austerity measures only because of the trend of falling revenues amid federalization and a worldwide economic recession.

"Austerity measures would have been more effective if implemented earlier and more severe measures could have been avoided by making sacrifices earlier. The administration, however, only supports the minimum required austerity measures for legitimate financial reasons only. This takes political courage and we applaud the courage of the senators for doing this in an election year," he said.

Reyes, however, said the administration would have to review the budget bill carefully and work with the House.

"The key is the House of Representatives. There has been strong resistance there in the past. But we are open to creative solutions. We will work with the House Ways and Means Committee," he added.

Yumul also said the administration has not formally communicated with the Legislature the collections and revenues for FY 2009.

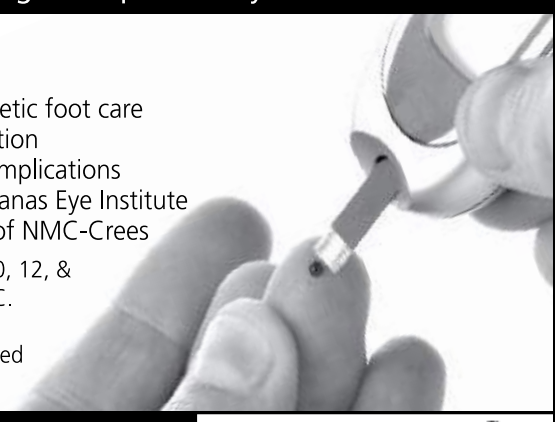
"We only read it in the paper that the government overspent in FY 2009; that the expenditure exceeded collection," he added.

The Senate-amended budget bill does not change the House's identified budgetary resources of $162.820 million. Since FY 2010 started on Oct. 1 without a new budget law, the government has started operating under a continuing resolution.

IN CELEBRATION OF
NATIONAL DIABETES PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH AND WORLD DIABETES DAY,
Diabetes Prevention and Control Program
CHC Physical Therapy will be offering a complimentary Diabetic Foot Clinic.

INCLUDES:
- Blood sugar and blood pressure check
- Foot examination and instruction in diabetic foot care
- Education in blood sugar control & nutrition
- Strategies to cope with diabetes & its complications
- Vision examination compliments of Marianas Eye Institute
- CNMI food nutrition facts compliments of NMC-Crees

The clinic will be held at 8am – 12pm, Nov 9, 10, 12, & 13th in the Physical Therapy Department at CHC.
To minimize wait time please call 236-8327/8 to book your appointment. Walk-ins will be accepted if space and time allows.



T-shirts and goodie bags to the first 10 customers each day!
Also raffle prices including gift certificates for footwear!
Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition

(Notice of Chinese Passport Renewal and Replacement)

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中华人民共和国驻洛杉矶总领事馆证件组将于2009年11月6日赴塞班，11月7日赴天宁现场受理中国护照换发和补发的申请，届时请申请人本人亲自到现场办理。请各位申请人务必提前认真阅读有关办证须知，按要求填妥申请表、准备好护照照片、相关文件及复印件、回邮信封及费用。本次只受理护照在2010年9月前过期的护照换发申请。有关事项详见2009年10月23日及2009年10月30日出版的《塞班侨报》，或塞班部分商店、餐馆以及学校张贴的通知，或登陆中华人民共和国驻洛杉矶总领事馆网站。

http://losangeles.china-consulate.org/chn/visa/news/t621570.htm

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一、时间：

塞班： 11月6日 上午9：00-12：00

天宁： 11月7日 上午9：00-12：00

二、地点：

塞班：优光(EUCON)国际大学AGAPE礼堂（位于中间路）

天宁：天宁皇朝酒店

三、咨询电话：288-2287

Congratulations!

SAEF School Students

Primary Grade Forensic Conference and Math Court Winners
Venue: Dandan Elem. School
Date: October 10, 2009

K-2 Division:
Duo
3rd Place
Hannah Lacap and
Mitziko Yema

3-5 Division:
Readers Forum (Novice)

1st Place
Joneil Matthew Santos

2nd Place
Mariel Angela Reyes

Readers Forum (Master)

4th Place
Myka Villegas

Impromptu Speaking

5th Place
Aaron Solomon Francia

Choral Speaking
3rd Place
From left
Myka Villegas,
Kristine Fajardo,
Mariel Angela Reyes,
Curtis Mostales and
Stephen Seth Alonzo

3-5 Division:
Duo Interpretation

5th Place
JD Faye Pascua
and
Kyle Villegas

6-8 Division:
Numbers

4th Place
John Joshua Valiente

5th Place
Sun Gyu Lim

6-8 Division:
Algebra

2nd Place
Sun Gyu Lim

National Junior Forensic League Winners
Venue: Dandan Elem. School
Date: October 24, 2009

Duo Interpretation
2nd Place
Pavan Hemlani
and
Young Arvi Cucal

Duo Interpretation
3rd Place
John Joshua Valiente
and
Husky Vi Cucal

Impromptu - A

2nd Place - Ezra Conner

Poetry - B

3rd Place - Vickie Abalin

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
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MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Kim's scam

Suppose that North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il decided last January to try luring the Obama administration into the same lucrative and fraudulent transaction his regime pulled off with the two previous U.S. presidents. In that case, Kim may feel he's getting close to executing another sting.

The scam goes like this: Pyongyang raises tension by firing off missiles, ejecting inspectors from its nuclear facilities, testing bombs and promising to produce more. Then it turns conciliatory, suggesting it might be willing to freeze its nuclear program and even begin to dismantle it in exchange for economic and political concessions. Next it begins talks, collecting as much in cash and diplomatic recognition as it can from Washington and its Asian allies. Finally, it breaks off the process before it has taken any irreversible step to give up its weapons or the means to produce them.

Kim has already run through the first two phases of his scheme in the past nine months. He conducted a nuclear test, fired the usual missiles and is reportedly close to restarting plutonium production at Yongbyon—the same plant that both the Clinton and Bush administrations paid him to shut. Earlier this month he won the endorsement of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao for his demand that any renewal of the "six-party" negotiations on North Korean disarmament be preceded by bilateral talks between North Korea and the Obama administration.

Such bilateral talks are a perennial objective of Pyongyang, because they exclude South Korea and Japan—which the regime wants to snub—as well as China, the only country with decisive leverage over Kim. Once the Obama administration shows up, Kim said, he will expect "progress" before he agrees to reopen the multilateral forum. That, of course, means bribes by the Obama administration, whether in the form of easing sanctions or steps toward U.S. recognition of his regime. Should the administration fail to deliver, Kim will blame the United States for blocking the six-party process—just as he successfully cast the Bush administration as the obstacle before it caved to his demands.

The Obama administration says it is well aware of what Kim is up to. To its credit, it has been slow to respond to his demand for bilateral talks, though preliminary contacts between U.S. and North Korean diplomats began last weekend. A State Department spokesman said that if higher-level talks occur, North Korea would be expected to reiterate its commitments to dismantle its nuclear program and agree to a return to the six-party forum.

Officials add that they have been consulting closely with China and that the two governments agree that this time around, North Korea must take irreversible steps before it receives rewards—a message that was stated publicly by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton last week. Does that mean that Kim will get nothing from the Obama administration at a bilateral meeting, other than the meeting itself? If so, that would be a step toward preventing another easy sting.

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OK, we have 2 swine flu shots for 10am Tuesday.. will that be VISA, Mastercard or American Express?
H1N1 VACCINE SHORTAGE
ticketmaster

Check engine

By ED STEPHENS

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

Keeping an island car running is part art and part science. On the happy side of things, Saipan has some excellent parts stores; NAPA once came up with a wheel bearing for a 1976 Ford pickup truck, for example, a feat which would have been impressive in Detroit, let alone Micronesia. But on the not so happy side of things, technology seems determined to thwart shade tree mechanics. That infernally cryptic "Check Engine" light is one of the curses of the computerized age.

You never know what this darned light means. Is it something important? Something trivial? Adding insult to injury, the notion of having to pay somebody to interpret that light in my car has always torqued my jaw. Maybe it's a cynical plot for car makers to keep their customers as helpless as possible, thus hooking them into permanent, crack-smoker style dependence on their dealers.

Of course, the technology needed to meet mandated emissions standards is largely responsible for the complexity, and for the consequent need for these expensive diagnostic machinations.

Things used to be simpler. You had an oil pressure gauge. You had a coolant temperature gauge. You had an ammeter or a voltmeter. Or if you didn't have the gauge, you'd have an idiot light. Still, it was unambiguous and simple. Just three things. And no mysterious yellow light (and its secret, computerized codes) shaking you down.

The big idea here is that you plug the code reader into this socket and, presto, the computer on your car will download its most intimate secrets to the code reader, and you'll know why that danged yellow "Check Engine" light has been giving you the stink-eye for the last two months.

But until they bring back the '67 Chevy, I guess the only way to fight technology is with technology. So I decided to buy a "code reader" suitable for shade tree mechanics.

After doing a bit of Googling about the particular car that was such a thorn in my side, I surmised that I needed a reader for "OBD2" codes. "OBD" means "On Board Diagnostics," or, if you screw it up, maybe "One Big Debacle."

About $60 later, I was the proud owner of an Equus 3030 Innova Diagnostic Code Reader for OBD2 vehicles. Incidentally, I've noticed that the "2" seems to be used interchangeably with a Roman-style "II" for these things.

The device is about the size of a fat remote control for a TV. The face of it has a large digital readout and a few buttons and lights. Sprouting from the top of its head is a cable with the special fitting that plugs into the car's OBD socket (which, on my car, is under the driver's side dash board).

The big idea here is that you plug the code reader into this socket and, presto, the computer on your car will download its most intimate secrets to the code reader, and you'll know why that danged yellow "Check Engine" light has been giving you the stink-eye for the last two months.

I'll tell you one impressive thing about this setup: The manual. It was so well-written that I actually read it (gasp!) before I started messing with things. The reader itself is well-designed and easy to use. And, yes, it allows you to extinguish the Check Engine light if you want.

As for the codes themselves, they are, well, codes. The manual came with an index of generic codes and what they mean, but car manufacturers can cook up their own, of course, which means that this stuff can turn into a research project.

As for generic codes, here are a couple of examples from the manual: A P0172 means "system too rich," a code that would indeed get my attention. A P0450 means "evaporative emission control system pressure sensor malfunction," which, uh, well, that's up to you, since I've got no idea what that means.

Of course, merely having the name of the problem is just one more clue in what can be a very tangled world of troubleshooting and repairing these days, so this code reader is no magic wand for a slob like me. For example, in the old days, if my car was running too rich, I'd know what to do about it, but these days? I have no idea, so I'd have to take it to a mechanic anyway.

Is a code reader a necessity? For the oily rag set, I think it's useful for one guy in the clique to have one of these things so it can be passed around, borrowed and lent as needed. Some tools you need, some you don't, and some are communal; I'd say this falls into the communal category.

Like it or not (and I don't), even an island-beater car can be a complex proposition.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Do you qualify as NMD as stipulated in Article 12 of our CNMI Constitution?

Editor's Note: The following is an essay prepared by the Citizens for Change of Article 12. A follow-up essay will discuss about exceptions to the NMD land ownership restrictions and the effects of Article 12 on the real estate market and the economy during the 20+ years since its implementation.

Second part of a series

The most critical part of Article 12 that continues to be confusing and misunderstood by many is Section 4. This Section defines who is Northern Marianas Descent ("*NMD")*. Unless you qualify as NMD you might eventually lose the right to own your land. Our Constitution says that an NMD is a person who is:

- a citizen or national of the United States;
- of at least one-quarter (1/4) Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof; or
- an adopted child of a person of Northern Marianas descent if adopted while under the age of eighteen years.

For purposes of determining Northern Marianas descent, a person shall be considered to be a full-blooded Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian if that person was

a) born or domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands by 1950; and

b) a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands before the termination of the Trusteeship with respect to the Commonwealth. The UN Trusteeship was terminated on November 3, 1986.

Definition of "domicile" = dwelling place; one's home; a place of permanent residence.

TAKE THE FOLLOWING TEST AND SEE IF YOU QUALIFY AS NMD:

1. Are you a citizen or a national of the United States? Yes ( ) No ( )

2. Is your bloodline at least ¼ Chamorro, Carolinian or combination thereof? Yes ( ) No ( )

3. In order for anyone to qualify as "FULL-BLOODED NMD",

- you must be born or domiciled in the NMI by 1950, and
- you were a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands before the termination of the Trusteeship (*Trusteeship was terminated on November 3, 1986).*

>>Answer to 3-a - Yes ( ) No ( )

>>Answer to 3-b - Yes ( ) No ( )

4. Were you adopted by someone whose bloodline is at least ¼ Chamorro, Carolinian or combination thereof while you were under 18 years of age? Yes ( ) No ( ).

If your answers for 1 through 4 above are "Yes" then you qualify as NMD. However, if you as an NMD person have a child with a non-NMD person, your child's bloodline quantum will be reduced. The degree of reduction depends on the bloodline quantum of the parents. For example, if a full NMD has a child with a non-NMD, their child will be of 50 percent NMD. If the child and a non-NMD person later have children, their children will be 25 percent NMD. Eventually, as more marriages between NMD persons and non-NMD persons occur in the Commonwealth and these mixed parents have children, the children's bloodline quantum, through no fault or choosing of their own, could be reduced to less than 25 percent and result in the children losing the right to own land in the CNMI. This would include losing the right to own land inherited and passed down from their parents and grandparents.

The Citizens for Change of Article 12 encourages everyone in the CNMI to read Article 12 in its entirety, gain a better understanding of what it is, and join the debate over whether to retain or repeal Article 12. Learn more about the unintended effects that it could have on those among us who are NMDs and our desire to bequeath land to our children and grandchildren. Understand how Article 12, if allowed to remain unchanged, could prohibit transfers of land from parent to child solely because of arbitrary bloodline requirements and mathematical computations. Think about those among us who are non-NMDs but call our Commonwealth home and wish to build homes for our families with hopes that we may eventually pass them on our children and grandchildren. Consider seriously the detrimental effects that Article 12 has on one's pursuit of economic gain and enrichment by limiting with whom one may transfer or sell land to.

If you are concerned about these issues, our Commonwealth, and our future generations, Citizens for Change of Article 12 encourages you to learn more about Article 12, discuss the issues, and join our efforts to repeal it in 2011.

Letters to the Editor

Election time

First off, I must make it clear that the ideas I am going to put to you are mine and mine alone. I am not running for office and I have no political aspirations. I just want to put the truth out and hope that you will think about what I have to say.

First, the Retirement Fund mess. The administration wants to blame the Fund trustees and the Fund trustees want to blame the Legislature. The truth is that they are both at fault but most of the fault must go to the Legislature. I am talking about House Bill 15-137, which because Public Law 15-15. This bill suspended the government's payment to the Retirement Fund for two years. Their reason for passing it was "to stabilize government finances." But at whose expense? Did they stabilize the government finances? No! They just kept right on spending money on pet projects and now we are in the mess they created. This bill was never referred to any committee, there were no public hearing, and no standing committee report. It was passed on first reading. Why the rush to get it passed?

The following is the result of the votes cast to pass Public Law 15-15:

The House members who voted "yes" were Ada, Martin B.; Aldan, Edwin P; Dela Cruz, Francisco S; Kaipat Jacinta M; Lizama, Jesus SN; Ogo, Crispin M; Palacios Arnold I; Quitugua, Justo S; Tebuteb, Ramon A; Torres, Stanley T; Yumul, Ray N; and Babauta, Oscar M.;

The House members who voted "no" were Deleon Guerrero, Joseph P; Seman, Benjamin B.; Tenorio, Manuel A.

Deleon Guerrero Florencio T.; Taman, Candido B; and Waki, Absalon V. Jr. were excused.

The following senators voted "yes": Hofschneider, Jude U; Mendiola, Felix T; Pangelinan, Maria T; San Nicolas Henry H; Mendiola, Joseph M.

The senators who voted "no" were Crisostimo, Luis P; and Manglona, Paul A. The senators who were excused were Hocog, Paterno S; and Reyes, Pete P.

I have named here those who voted for and against P.L. 15-15 because you may want to ask them some questions of your own.

Now on the election. We have four men who want to be governor. Let's take the incumbent governor first. This administration has been a complete failure. The only way he knows to get anything done is to set a declaration of emergency. Well, I am sorry but I saw through that one a long time ago. He likes to operate under the state of emergency so that he can issue sole source contracts to his buddies without having a competitive bid. Who is he working for: the working people or his buddies?

Now we have Mr. Hofschneider. Funny but the only time we hear much from him is when he is running for office. The rest of the time he is very quiet. So let's look at his voting record. He has voted for special interest groups almost every time. Who is he working for? He has been in the Legislature for over 15 years and what has he really accomplished? If he could not get anything done in the Legislature, what makes him think he can do any better as governor?

Now we have Mr. Juan "Pan" Guerrero. He does not have much of a track record to look at. But the way he worked in the Retirement Fund and his recent statement about how the hospital should treat the people who owe the hospital money, I have to say he is at the least very shortsighted. Bad news for the working people.

Now we come to Mr. Ramon "Kumoi" Guerrero. Here we have a man that means what he says. He backs up his words with action. Look at what he accomplished at CUC. It is my opinion that if we do not elect him governor, we are making a very serious mistake. Not just because I am supporting him. I am just one voter. Look at his platform. He has good solid ideas about how to make life better for all of us.

Okay, I am not trying to tell you who to vote for. I am asking you take a good honest look at all the candidates. Vote intelligently, not with your emotions, or the good old family line. This election is too important for us to make another mistake, like we did in the last election.

Another subject—the smoking ban. I have been observing the effect this law is having on small businesses. It is killing them. This bill seems to be very much like Public Law 15-15 that our Legislature rushed to pass with no regards for what the long term effects will be. You talk about tourism; well, this law will run the tourists right off the island. If the Legislature would use their heads, there is a way to accommodate both the smokers and non-smokers without killing the small businesses and driving off the tourists. I ask that every small business owners and smokers call the Legislature and get this law repealed before it is too late.

Fred Prosser
As Matuis, Saipan

Crime wave

Dr. Hall has said what we all know. I personally have been burglarized five times in five months in the marina for many thousands of dollars of boating equipment as well as many others. My friends tell of many recent stories of home and vehicle break-ins. The last officer who took my report chuckled and said they have at least one dozen reports a shift. The PIO never reports or asks for help. The very few that are caught are turned loose to rob again. I thought we had a new prison? Justice? Who buys all of this stolen property? Is it not a criminal act to possess and buy stolen property? The buyers are just as guilty. Do you think any of our political candidates are concerned about rampant crime?

Louis Dailey
Talafofo, Saipan

Incompetence at BMV

My wife has just returned from the Department of Motor Vehicles here in Guam in tears. Guam's DMV has plenty of problems—as anyone who has dealt with them will attest—but, in fact, the reason my wife is so upset lies many miles to the north in the CNMI.

In brief, my wife was trying to get her Guam driver's license. As required, she brought with her the CNMI license she has held for many years and a copy of her CNMI traffic record, which she obtained from the CNMI's DMV last week. However, when she finally got the counter at the Guam DMV, the attendant told her that they couldn't process her license. The reason? One of the dates on her CNMI traffic form—the form the CNMI BMV's staff provided to her, a document they authored and we paid $20 for—was incomplete. And so, through no fault of her own, she was denied a Guam drivers license.

A Guam DMV official politely told her to contact the CNMI BMV and to have them confirm, either through fax or some other means, the full date required, in order to process her application. She did this. I listened to the conversation as she explained the problem to "Carmen" at the CNMI BMV office and the error her staff had made.

"Well, everyone makes mistakes," Carmen replied before refusing to correct her mistake and quite suddenly hanging up the phone on her.

As I write this, we are preparing to go before a DMV supervisor here in Guam to plead with him to issue my wife a license and, of course, we will be taking our complaints to officials on Saipan too.

However, in my mind this incident speaks volumes about the CNMI's government and the problems people who live there have to deal with every day because of the incompetence and the callousness that many in the CNMI government show toward the people they serve.

Yes, Carmen, you're right, we all make mistakes. But when we know one has been made, those of us worth our salt try to make things right, something that you just wouldn't do. And to add insult to injury, you were also rather rude about it.

I don't intend to chastise everyone who works for the CNMI's government. Certainly, there are plenty of dedicated, intelligent people serving the islands as best they can. But to those of you who do behave like my new friend at the BMV, you know who you are and there is no excuse for treating people like garbage.

It's not only the BMV. I have personally watched as CUC staff have let their telephones dangle off the hook to avoid incoming calls in the afternoon, as high level government officials have been inexplicably absent from work for days at a time—with pay I might add—and as CNMI government officials have squandered the people's money without a second thought.

And so, I ask you, is it any wonder that the feds have taken over the CNMI's immigration office and "federalized" the immigration system? If the CNMI government can't even run a BMV, or keep the lights on, or clean the water, how could any objective person expect it to handle something as crucial and complicated as an immigration system? Maybe I'll ask Carmen that the next time we cross paths.

Stefan Sebastian
Guam

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲86	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Rain	▲88	▼76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼74
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Rain	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

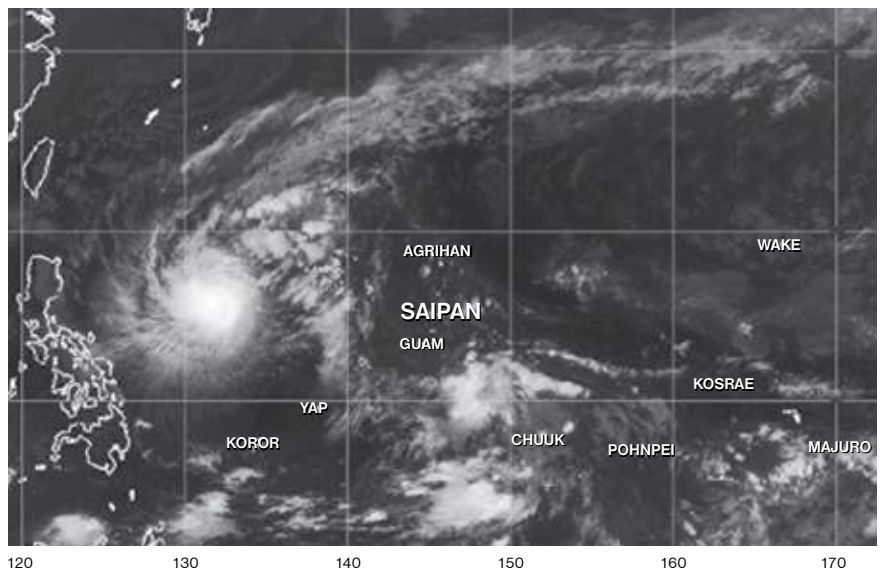
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲61	▼48
Beijing	Showers	▲52	▼39
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼77
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼74
London	Cloudy	▲63	▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲79	▼54
Manila	Cloudy	▲93	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲81	▼62
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼76
New York	Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Osaka	Sunny	▲72	▼52
Paris	Cloudy	▲62	▼47
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼55
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲67	▼36
Salem	Showers	▲63	▼48
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼53
Seoul	Cloudy	▲68	▼55
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲72	▼56
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼54

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:54 AM Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
10:57 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
5:11 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:52 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Mirinae (23W) is centered near 16N138E moving west at 20 mph with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph. Showers and scattered thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of the center. For more information on Tropical Storm 23W, see JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and NWS bulletins issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. The monsoon trough arcs northeastward from 13N130E to Mirinae then turns southeastward to 5N160E to end at EQ175E. Convergent low-level winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 250 miles of a line from 5N143E to 8N158E. This area includes Chuuk and Pohnpei. Trade-winds converging north of the monsoon trough are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Guam within 60 miles of a line from 13N144E to 10N145E and within 100 miles of a line from 15N135E to 19N137E to 19N141E to 16N142E. A cold front extends westward from 16N180 to 18N160E. Cloudiness and patchy rain are found along and up to 100 miles north of boundary. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers north of Kosrae and Kwajalein within 80 miles of two separate lines from 6N161E to 8N163E and from 11N163E to 8N168E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Monday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:10 PM	2:48 AM
Saturday	3:47 PM	3:36 AM
Sunday	4:26 PM	4:27 AM
Monday	5:10 PM	5:21 AM
Tuesday	5:58 PM	6:18 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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Republican Party of the NMI Association

invites everyone to the

HAppy GOP Rally

In appreciation of our CNMI community, supporters, volunteers, and voters for opening up their hearts and homes for our Republican Party candidates, we all humbly invite everyone to join us for a fun-filled night for our RALLY!

2009 GOP CANDIDATES

We are the CNMI's Party!

#1

Please Vote Republican!

Hofschneider, Heinz Sablan
Governor

Palacios, Arnold Indalecio
Lt. Governor

1 united team striving to make positive changes for all!

SENATORS

#8 Reyes, Pete Pangelinan
(Incumbent - Saipan)

 # 6 Torres, Ralph Deleon Guerrero
(Saipan)

#3 Hofschneider, Jude Untalan
(Incumbent – Tinian)

#1 Cruz, Frank Quichocho
(Tinian)

MAYORS

#3 Flores, Donald Glenn Pangelinan
(Mayor-Saipan)

#2 Dela Cruz, Ramon Muna
(Mayor-Tinian)

#1 Aldan, Tobias Dela Cruz
(Mayor-Northern Islands)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#2 Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Pinaula
(Precinct 1 – Incumbent)

#6 Benavente, Diego Tenorio
(Precinct 1 – Incumbent)

#3 Maratita, Janet Ulloa
(Precinct 1)

#10 Cabrera, Eliceo "Eli" Diaz
(Precinct 1)

#12 Sablan, Antonio "Tony" Pangelinan
(Precinct 1)

#11 Palacios, Joseph Mafnas
(Precinct 1)

#11 Tebuteb, Ramon Angailen
(Precinct 3 – Incumbent)

#5 Yumul, Ray Naraja
(Precinct 3 – Incumbent)

#14 Dela Cruz, Frank Santos
(Precinct 3 – Incumbent)

#8 Aquino, Danny, Jr. Iwashita
(Precinct 3)

#4 Salas, Ramon Sablan
(Precinct 3)

#6 Castro, Jesus Manibusan
(Precinct 3)

#4 Atalig, Eric Benavente
(Precinct 2)

#2 Tenorio, Manuel Agulto
(Precinct 2)

#2 Camacho, Frank Deleon Guerrero
(Precinct 4)

#5 Babauta, Juan Reyes
(Precinct 4)

#5 Santos, Rosemond Blanco
(Precinct 5 – Incumbent)

#3 Demapan, Jose Sablan
(Precinct 5)

#2 Conner, Trenton Brian
(Precinct 6 – Tinian)

Friday, October 30, 2009

4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. • Civic Center Beach

GOP Manhoben will meet at 13 Fishermen at 3:00 PM and will convoy to Civic Center Beach by 3:45 PM

Thank You!

Heinzarnold2009.com • Paid for by David J. Attao, Treasurer, Republican Party

Letters to the Editor

Facing reality

I recently came across an interesting article that for some reason in my mind drew parallels with Saipan. The article can be accessed at http://www.baystatebanner.com/local12-2009-01-22.

Feel free to tell me if I'm wrong, but after reading this article, did you see certain key words that strike close to home? Words like "struggling economy," "tourism industry," "attract more visitors", and then the last and most important key word—crime.

I wonder if certain individuals who represent Saipan either through official channels or just on an individual basis, truly understand the power of information. While the *Saipan Tribune* is a passive source of local information and opinion, does anyone truly believe that they could gloss over the reality to outsiders?

Without going into detail, I recently communicated with individuals who call Saipan their home. Let's call these individuals "Bill." On a hypothetical note, let's assume that I represent certain business owners. On one hand, I managed to garner an assessment from a prominent individual and it's the typical "positive attitude" nonsense so endemic to someone who has a vested interest in surviving. Forgive me in advance, but I don't believe that "positive thinking" can solve every problem. What solves problems is facing the reality, making decisions and accepting hard choices.

What doesn't solve problems is escaping it through slogans or clever stories or political campaigns that are void of true commitments. Positive thinking will get you as far as the next positive thought, it won't get you any further. Now, let me get back to the crime issue. While my hypothetical friend, let's call him "Bill," was adamant on selling the virtues of Saipan via our e-mail transactions, I had better sources. If I'm not mistaken, I e-mailed this individual some local files from the regional office of the FBI in Chicago where I'm located. Excuse me if I'm wrong, but it seems that Saipan has a serious problem with the following: organized Asian crime rings, smuggling operations, drugs, and corruption.

All I can say is that maybe Jamaica is a lesson. Saipan doesn't seem to get it. Maybe my friend "Bill" should pack up his bags and head back to the motherland.

As far as I'm concerned, you know what would be really interesting? All of a sudden you have someone show up on your island and, well, things change for the better. Wouldn't that be something.

Jim Vandenburg
Chicago, IL

Comment period extended

Readers might want to know that the Department of Commerce has re-opened and extended the comment period for the report "A Strategic Approach Utilizing CNMI's Natural Resources to Provide Complementary Support to DOD."

The new deadline is Nov. 2. Comments can be e-mailed to commercedept@pticom.com or delivered to the Commerce Department office on Capital Hill. The report can be found on the web at www.Commerce.gov.mp.

Having suggested that the comment period be extended in a previous letter to the editor about this report, I feel under obligation to make sure people know that indeed, the period has been extended—a little.

Ruth Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

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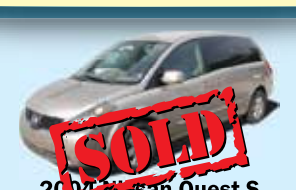
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How is your baby growing?

If your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay, talk to your doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about it:

Developmental Health Watch
4 Years (48 Months) to 5 Years (60 Months)

- Acts extremely fearful or timid
- Is unable to separate from parents without major protest
- Shows little interest in playing with other children
- Rarely uses fantasy or imitation in play
- Doesn't engage in a variety of activities
- Has trouble eating, sleeping or using the toilet
- Cannot understand two-part commands using prepositions ("Put the doll on the bed, and get the ball under the couch.")
- Doesn't use plurals or past tense properly when speaking
- Cannot build a tower of six to eight blocks
- Has trouble taking off clothing
- Cannot wash and dry hands
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

You may also contact the **Special Education Program** at
237-3029
for a **FREE** developmental screening!

Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

Big Steps for Little Feet

Letters to the Editor

Backyard gardening

The idea behind Public Law 15-24 is something that must be looked at more closely. Cutting off one full day every week will spell drastic impact both to the business community as well as to our government workers that may cause more harm than good. This issue of cutting back government expenditures can be addressed in many ways that perhaps can create a balanced sacrifice for all parties.

It is well known that government employees generally arrive at their work between 7:30 to 9:00 every morning. Perhaps the government work should begin at 9am and end at the same 4:30pm. Cutting the work days to four days a week will not be well received by the private sector as it can have negative impact to this group. Remember that government exists for the private sector and the people, not the other way around.

Perhaps a better idea would be for government employees to be encouraged to have a backyard gardening in the early morning, just before the sun get too hot, then be at their government work at 9am. This will encourage green revolution as more livestock will be raised and vegetables are produced to supplement the family income and offsetting the impact of reduced government work hours. The extension service from the DLNR and NMC should be supported to encourage and educate our community in backyard gardening. A productive community full of healthy fresh foods may be realized.

Remember the days of our grandparents when healthy fresh foods were abundant? I am sure we can bring the healthy old days back. When leaders make policy, they should look at the potential impact that may happen. Before making a final decision, a full debate on the issue should be exercised.

Frank M. Atalig
Sinapalo, Rota

Vote with your conscience

To the people of the CNMI, please bear in mind that politics is just temporary and before you know it, it's over. But family is a lifetime commitment that must be cherished, we cannot let political differences affect our daily lives. After all, we are all in the Land of the Free, with the freedom to choose who you want to vote for on Nov. 7, 2009. Please vote with your conscience. Do not be influenced, do not be bought, think of all the existing problems that we are all facing and experiencing here in our beautiful islands.

I am not asking you to vote for me and my partymates, because I do not want to be accused of politicking, but I do want to say this: If you are happy and satisfied with our current situation and you are not suffering at all, good for you. But to those who are not happy and are currently hurting in so many ways due to high utility cost, high cost of food and other commodities, poor health care system, unstable tourism industry, unemployment on the rise that leads to crimes, and corruption that had spread throughout the CNMI as stated by Chief Justice Demapan in his State of the Judiciary address, I leave it up you, the voters of this great Commonwealth, to choose wisely and vote for whom you think will best serve your interest and help improve the livelihood of our people.

Joseph Mafnas Palacios
Dandan, Saipan

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All Souls Day Sale!!!

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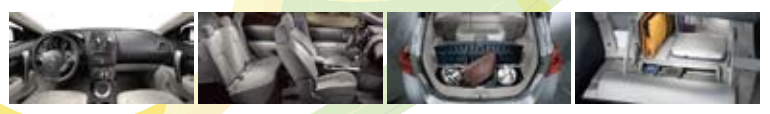

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Civic Hybrid	9S007352	Gray	$3,500.00
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Element LX	9L000190	Silver	$3,000.00
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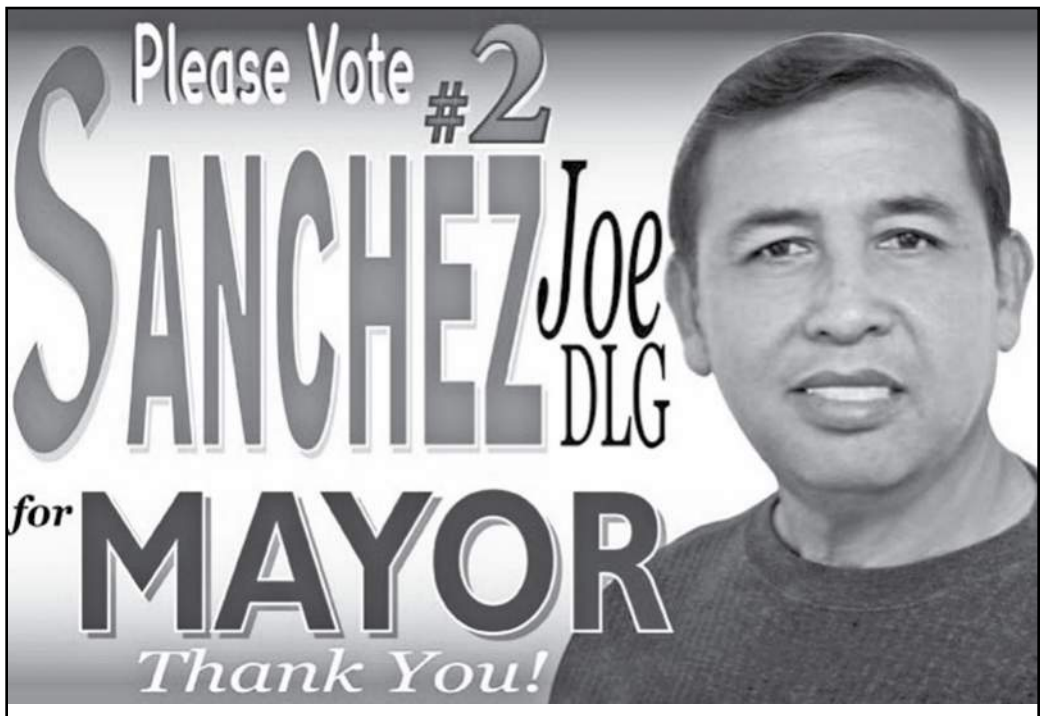

Jose Dlg. Sanchez
2009 Mayoral Candidate

Mission Statement

"To improve and implement essential services for the communities of Saipan, and to establish programs that would nurture our youth into civic-minded, responsible adults. Through close collaboration with the central government and various organizations around the island, I hope to promote Saipan, as well as the rest of the CNMI, as a world-class destination rich in culture and tradition."

Statement of Intent

In deciding to run for Mayor of Saipan, I bear many things in mind: the state of the global economy, the challenges of our Commonwealth, and the seemingly unchanging complacency of your youth. But, I also bear in mind that each of us is unique – we share different thoughts, beliefs, opinions, and ways of life. As much as this uniqueness ay separate us, it is in fact that same uniqueness that, if taken wholeheartedly and indiscriminately, will create the valuable and meaningful contributions that our families, friends, and community so dearly wish for.

I cannot guarantee the fulfillment of each and every statement I make during my candidacy or, hopefully, my time as Mayor. I can, however, guarantee that I will leverage each resource and opportunity that arises to achieve that goals and objectives I have set to the best of my abilities that is the only promise I can and will make.

Letters to the Editor

Objectivity vs familial voters

Choosing the right candidates to manage the affairs of the CNMI has always been a challenge for all of us every election. While there are a lot of politicians out there, very few have proven themselves leaders. There is a huge difference.

One such leader is Rep. Tina Sablan. I hope and pray that the voters of Saipan will acknowledge their good fortune and elect her to the Senate so that she can continue her crusade to protect our interest as a people. Especially so since Chief Justice Demapan stated that corruption is prevalent in our government. I also hope that the people of Rota and Tinian will elect a leader who will prioritize the needs of our people like Rep. Sablan, and not vote because of friendship, *kumpaire* or familial relation. This practice has been the cancer in our government since its inception.

Moreover, I pray that upon the formulation of the incoming Legislature, Rep. Sablan be given the opportunity to chair the powerful Executive Appointment and Government Operations committee, a committee that has been misused, abused and underused by the current and previous chairmen. Properly applied, the committee should be able to address the corruption issues the Chief Justice indicated as well as keep the balance of power among the three branches of government.

As for the top post, perhaps the most basic approach in choosing a Governor/Lt. Governor is to do so with objectivity.

1. Guerrero/Camacho: The Retirement Fund status dilemma is the way it is under the watch of Mr. Guerrero. The Fund needs him now more than ever yet he chooses to jump ship and look for another job. Should we trust him with our well-being? If he failed the Fund then, how can we be assured that the CNMI government is in good hands? Why legal action now when there's little money to share? If he cannot handle one function in government, will he be able to tackle the myriad intricacies of governmental function?

2. Hofchneider/Palacios: We've all read the papers and it is a matter of public record that Rep. Hofschneider has continuously overspent his legislative budget and borrowed to meet his overspending habit. Imagine what would happen if he's is in charge of our funds?

3. Guerrero/Borja: Well, Ray's main issue is CUC, so what's new.

4. Fitial/Inos: We're still waiting for better times like Ben promised. If not for the worldwide economic chaos, I would say that Ben lied to us. However, if the great US of A is struggling to make ends meet, then Ben has a viable excuse. His advantage though, is that he is an incumbent and has the mechanism in place to continue what there is to do to turn this economy around. With him, there will be continuity in service as opposed to a new team. Plus we have Tina to keep him in check. Granted, we've yet to see better times; however, the entire world economy isn't shining either. Changing captain in the middle of the storm will be counter-productive. Ben has failed me personally, but I firmly believe Fitial/Inos would be the lesser evil and therefore the objective choice and, we have Tina to keep them in check.

As for the Legislature, like Mr. David Sablan said, "CNMI has to figure [out] a way to reinvent itself." I say let's replace them all. Mr. Sablan ably stated, "We need people with the drive, enthusiasm, education and commitment of the likes of Tina Sablan." *Biba* CNMI!

Andy M. Ramos
Rota

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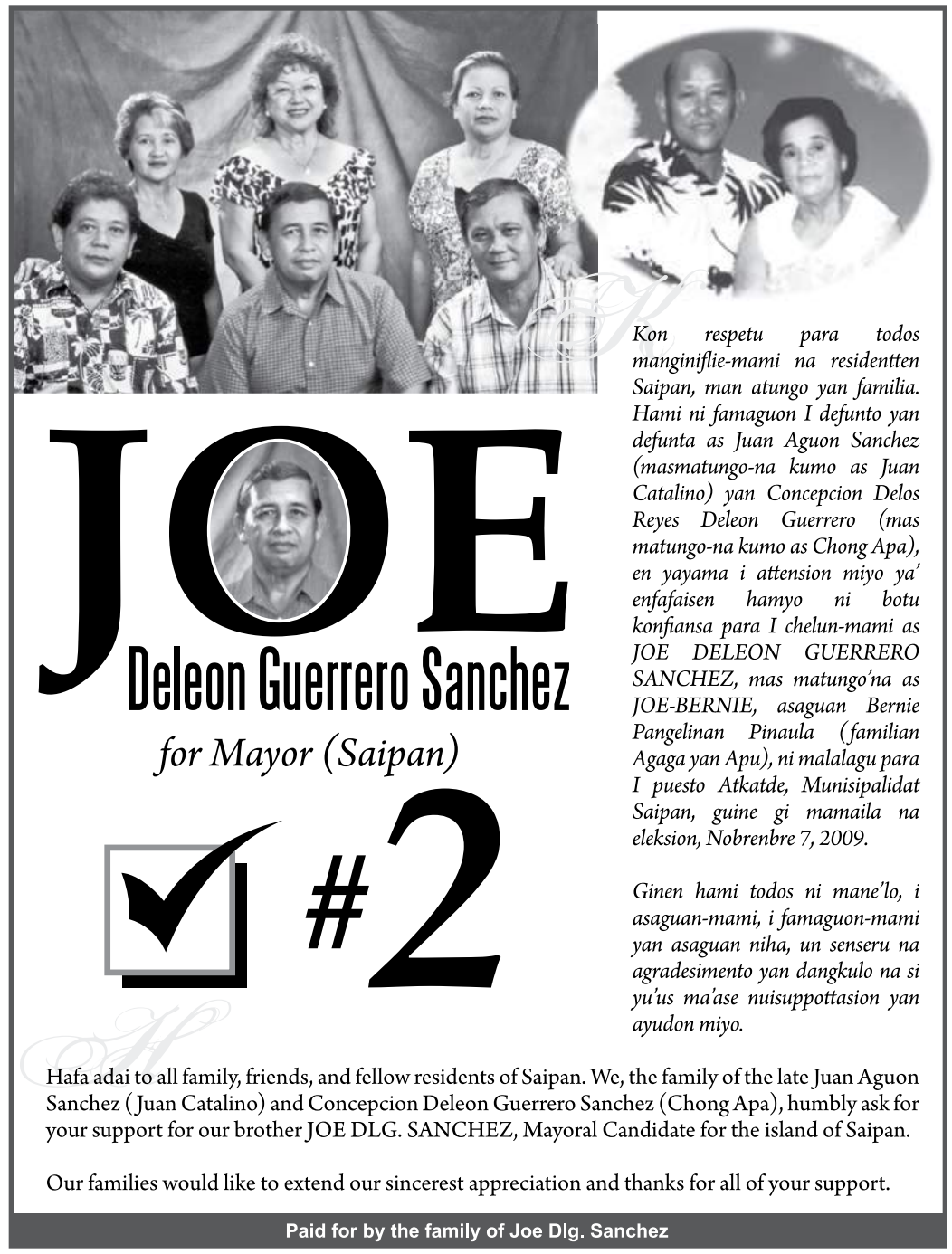
HEALTH AND WELL BEING


JOE
Deleon Guerrero Sanchez
for Mayor (Saipan)
#2
Kon respetu para todos manginiflie-mami na residentten Saipan, man atungo yan familia. Hami ni famaguon I defunto yan defunta as Juan Aguon Sanchez (masmatungo-na kumo as Juan Catalino) yan Concepcion Delos Reyes Deleon Guerrero (mas matungo-na kumo as Chong Apa), en yayama i attension miyo ya' enfafaisen hamyo ni botu konfiansa para I chelun-mami as JOE DELEON GUERRERO SANCHEZ, mas matungo'na as JOE-BERNIE, asaguan Bernie Pangelinan Pinaula (familian Agaga yan Apu), ni malalagu para I puesto Atkatde, Munisipalidat Saipan, guine gi mamaila na eleksion, Nobrenbre 7, 2009.
Ginen hami todos ni mane'lo, i asaguan-mami, i famaguon-mami yan asaguan niha, un senseru na agradesimento yan dangkulo na si yu'us ma'ase nuisuppottasion yan ayudon miyo.
Hafa adai to all family, friends, and fellow residents of Saipan. We, the family of the late Juan Aguon Sanchez (Juan Catalino) and Concepcion Deleon Guerrero Sanchez (Chong Apa), humbly ask for your support for our brother JOE DLG. SANCHEZ, Mayoral Candidate for the island of Saipan.
Our families would like to extend our sincerest appreciation and thanks for all of your support.
Paid for by the family of Joe Dlg. Sanchez

NMC: Accreditation team visit went well

NMC

Members of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges visited NMC earlier this week. From left, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez; Dr. Worku Negash, ACCJC; and Dr. Sherrill Amador, ACCJC/team chair.

The accreditation team visit to the Northern Marianas College earlier this week went very well, according to NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

"The team members had to compress their schedule because of the storm, but they were able to complete their planned meetings with key employees and college groups," said Fernandez.

The visiting team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges was composed of Dr. Sherrill Amador, ACCJC commissioner/team chair, and Dr. Worku Negash, ACCJC team member.

The team met with members of the NMC Board of Regents, the NMC president, leaders of the constituent groups (Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, ASNMC), members of the college's shared governance groups (College Council, PROAC, Budget and Finance Committee), and others.

The purpose of the visit was to follow up on plans that the college submitted in its 2006 Self Study Report. The visiting team also followed up on the progress the college has made in resolving team and commission recommendations for improvement.

"The team praised the progress and accomplishments that the college has achieved," said Fernandez. "At the same time, they also had very valuable recommendations about how we can further improve."

"Dr. Negash also noted a considerable improvement in campus grounds and facilities from the first time he was here in 2006," added Fernandez.

In an e-mail to the campus community, Fernandez commended all employees and students for their hard work in preparation for the visit.

"We now wait for the acceptance of the report by the commission in its January 2010 meeting," said Fernandez. "In the meantime, we will continue the college's momentum toward becoming the premier learning institution in the region."

Earlier this month (on Oct. 15, 2009), the college submitted its mid-term report to ACCJC and to the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities.

Pursuant to accreditation requirements, all institutions are required to submit periodic reports to the commission. The mid-term report is normally due in the third year following the evaluation team visit.

The college's accreditation was recently reaffirmed by the ACCJC in its June 2009 meeting.

To prepare for the team visit, NMC officials continued the work it had initiated when the college was placed on show cause status in January 2008.

This work included the strengthening of the linkage between planning, program review, and resource allocation.

The college has also been continuing its progress on institutionalizing a systematic program review process. In fact, the college recently begun its third cycle (Cycle 3) of program review. ***(NMC)***

10 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has hoisted the red flag on 10 Saipan beach sites and is warning the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

According to DEQ, water samples taken from the Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW Channel Bridge, Garapan Fishing Dock, Sugar Dock, Hafa Adai drainage, Hafa Adai Hotel, San Jose Beach, Smiling Cove, Fiesta Resort, and Garapan Beach drainage contained excessive concentrations of enterococci that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These fecal indicator bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Wednesday. This week, it obtained samples from 38 sites. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500.

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UTILITY LUMBER TREATED: 2X4X12 - $3.40; 2X4X18 - $7.00; 2X6X12 - $10.00; 2X6X14 - $11.00; 2X6X16 - $13.00; 2X6X18 - $14.50; 2X6X20 - $10.90
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GM VAN								
N/A	2007	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	55365	WHITE	BUS-1223	~~17,499~~	16,999

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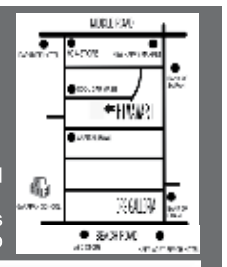

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL SALE

OCT. 30, 31 & NOV. 1, 2009 (FRI, SAT & SUN)

We Accept Orders of:

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  Medium 45pcs. $35.00
  Large 65pcs. $45.00
- Cake (Available Flavors: Vanilla, Mocha, Chocolate and Green Tea)
  8"x8" $25.00
  10"x14" $35.00
  19"x14" $50.00

ON SALE!

- Freshly Bake Pancake (DORAYAKI)
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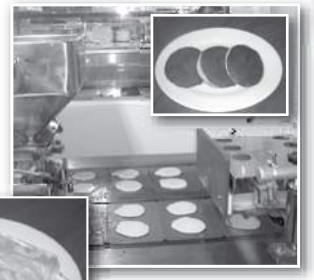
  3 pcs. $2.00
  1 pc. $0.80



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All Raffle Tickets entitles you to win Special Gift Prizes: $50.00 Gift Certificate, High Quality Ceramic Dishes, Glass Vase, and a lot more!!!

Raffle Draw will be on November 8, 2009.
(Purchase of cigar and phone cards not included.)

Chance doubles for NMI students to attend U.S. Service Academies

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Students from the Northern Mariana Islands aspiring to attend one of the U.S. service academies now have twice as many slots open to them.

President Barack Obama signed the 2010 Defense Authorization Act into law yesterday with a provision allowing the Northern Marianas to have two students at a time at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, and the Military Academy at West Point. The provision was added to the bill by U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

"I am so glad that the very first legislative language that I drafted and has become law means an increase in educational opportunities for students from the Northern Mariana Islands," said Sablan. "I truly believe that only by investing in education for our people will we ensure our economic and social well-being 30 to 50 years into the future."

Sablan succeeded in having his amendment added to the Defense Authorization bill during its debate in the House Armed Services Committee in June. The amendment survived throughout the long legislative process that ended yesterday with Obama's signature.

"I certainly want to thank Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, who is a member of the Armed Services Committee, and who co-sponsored my amendment, for her generous support," said Sablan. "I also want to thank Committee Chairman Ike Skelton of Missouri and all of his staff, who assisted me in this effort."

Sablan traveled with Skelton earlier this month to the chairman's hometown of Lexington, Missouri, to visit the Wentworth Military Academy there. Skelton is a Wentworth graduate. The school is interested in enrolling students from the Northern Marianas into its two-year Associate of Arts degree, which can also earn a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Enactment of the Defense Act means that Sablan will now have five slots to fill at the Service Academies for the term beginning in 2010.

"All the information is available on my Web site for those interested in applying for a congressional nomination to West Point, Annapolis, or Colorado Springs," Sablan said.

The deadline to begin the application process is Nov. 25.

Although Section 533 of the Defense Act increases the number of appointments that can be made as a result of a congressional nomination, it is actually possible to have more than two Northern Mariana Islands students at any one of the academies. This is because Northern Mariana Islands students sometimes first attend a one-year preparatory school before entering the academy. And those students are appointed by the Secretary of the respective branch of service, not by a member of Congress.

"We actually have two young men at the Naval Academy prep school now," explained Sablan, "and one cadet at the Academy. So it's possible that this time next year we could see four of our young people going to school in Annapolis. That would be great!"

Although Sablan and other Members of Congress can make nominations to the Academies, the nominations do not ensure acceptance. It is ultimately up to the Academy admissions offices to decide who, among all the nominees, will have the honor and opportunity of attending.

Qualifications for admission include academic and physical skills, as well as a potential for the leadership required of any military officer. ***(PR)***

ON THE NET

http://sablan.house.gov/services/academy-nominations.shtml

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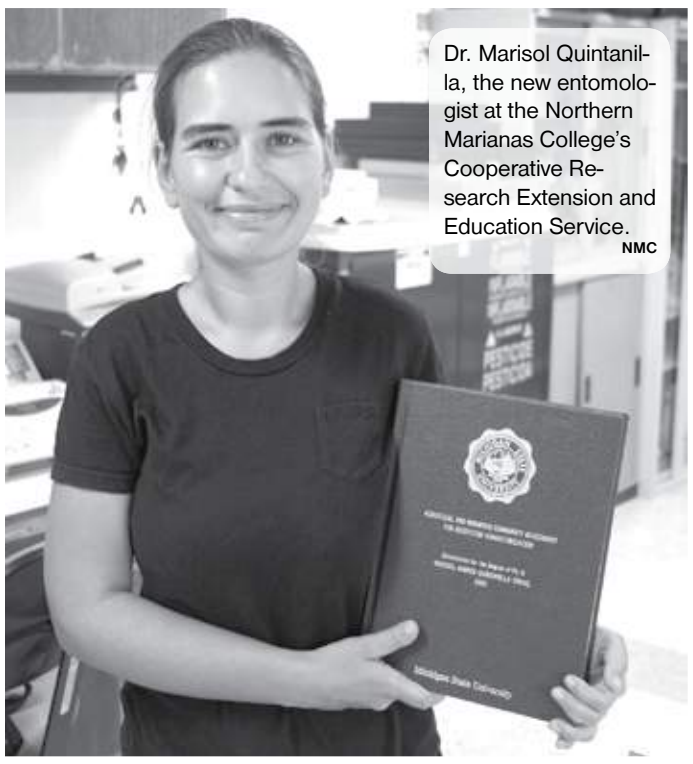
Esteemed entomologist joins NMC

A distinguished scientist who has had many of her research work published for international distribution has joined the Northern Marianas College to spearhead the college's Entomology Lab.

Dr. Marisol Quintanilla, who is also a former Michigan State University instructor, was appointed to the post of entomologist and nematologist of NMC's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service. She fills the position left vacant after former CREES entomologist Dr. Jack Tenorio retired earlier this year.



Dr. Marisol Quintanilla, the new entomologist at the Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service. NMC

"The addition of Dr. Quintanilla to the college community is both timely and vital as NMC moves forward in enhancing the services and resources it provides to the CNMI community," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "She brings a wealth of knowledge, talent, and experience to the CREES team."

One of the key projects Quintanilla is overseeing with CREES extension agent Arnold Route involves the distribution and promotion of an organic pesticide manufactured with extracts from the neem plant, which was recently introduced to the CNMI.

Quintanilla graduated from Andrews University in Michigan in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. She then went on to graduate from Michigan State University with her master's degree in entomology (2004) and her doctorate degree in nematology and entomology (2009).

While pursuing her master's and doctorate degrees, Quintanilla served in various academic positions in the entomology department at MSU, where she delivered lectures, conducted demonstrations, and prepared learning outcomes for undergraduate students. Most recently, she was employed as a graduate research assistant at MSU's Entomology's Department's Nematology Program, which specializes in the study of nematodes, or roundworms.

"I look forward to working with local farmers in the protection and maintenance of their crops," said Dr. Quintanilla. "Already, the Entomology Lab staff have been hard at work in maintaining contact with local farmers to ensure that any new information is communicated and any new resources distributed."

Since 2007, Quintanilla has been active in various outreach presentations throughout the state of Michigan that focused on soil biology and nematode community structure. Some of her presentations featured topics, such as acoustical signatures in natural ecosystems, which was presented at the Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting in 2008 in Nevada, and soil biology, which was presented at Michigan State University.

Quintanilla, who holds memberships in many professional societies of entomologists and nematologists throughout America, also earned a number of awards for her extensive research and teaching abilities. The C.S. Mott Doctoral Fellowship, which promotes the establishment of sustainable food systems, recognized Quintanilla for her research on sustainability in agriculture. Quintanilla was also awarded the MSU Entomology Department's Dr. Eugenia McDaniel Teaching Award, which is given to the most effective entomology instructor in each particular semester.

Quintanilla arrived on Saipan in June 2009 with husband Goran Jotanovic and daughter Valera Jotanovic. The family enjoys outdoor activities, such as gardening, swimming, and observing nature. ***(NMC)***

Free alt-energy lecture at AMP

Saipan-based physics professor John Hait will be conducting a free lecture on "How to Recycle Scrap Metal into Electricity" next Friday, Nov. 6, at the American Memorial Park. It will begin at 6pm.

Hait said his lesson will feature practical applications for local use, each with a negative carbon footprint and capable of making the island a showcase of Earth-compatible energy generation.

"This lecture is designed to help people become more aware of alternative energy options for their own home use or business," said Hait. "This one is a new alternative energy because it cleans up the island while producing electricity. People go out and clean the islands and produce electricity and doesn't add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere."

Hait's future lectures will feature the following topics and dates:

- Simple Wave and Hydro Power, Jan.8
- The Super High Efficiency Alternator, Jan. 22
- Homes with Built-in, Continuously Comfortable Temperatures
- Save, Using Local Building Materials, Feb. 19
- Alternative Energy Distribution, March 5
- Manufacturing Using Local and Recycled Materials, March 19
- Turning Alternative Energy into Money, April 9

For more information, visit Hait's Web site at www.EinsteinCode.com. ***(PR)***

HALLOWEEN CALENDAR

Democrats host Halloween events

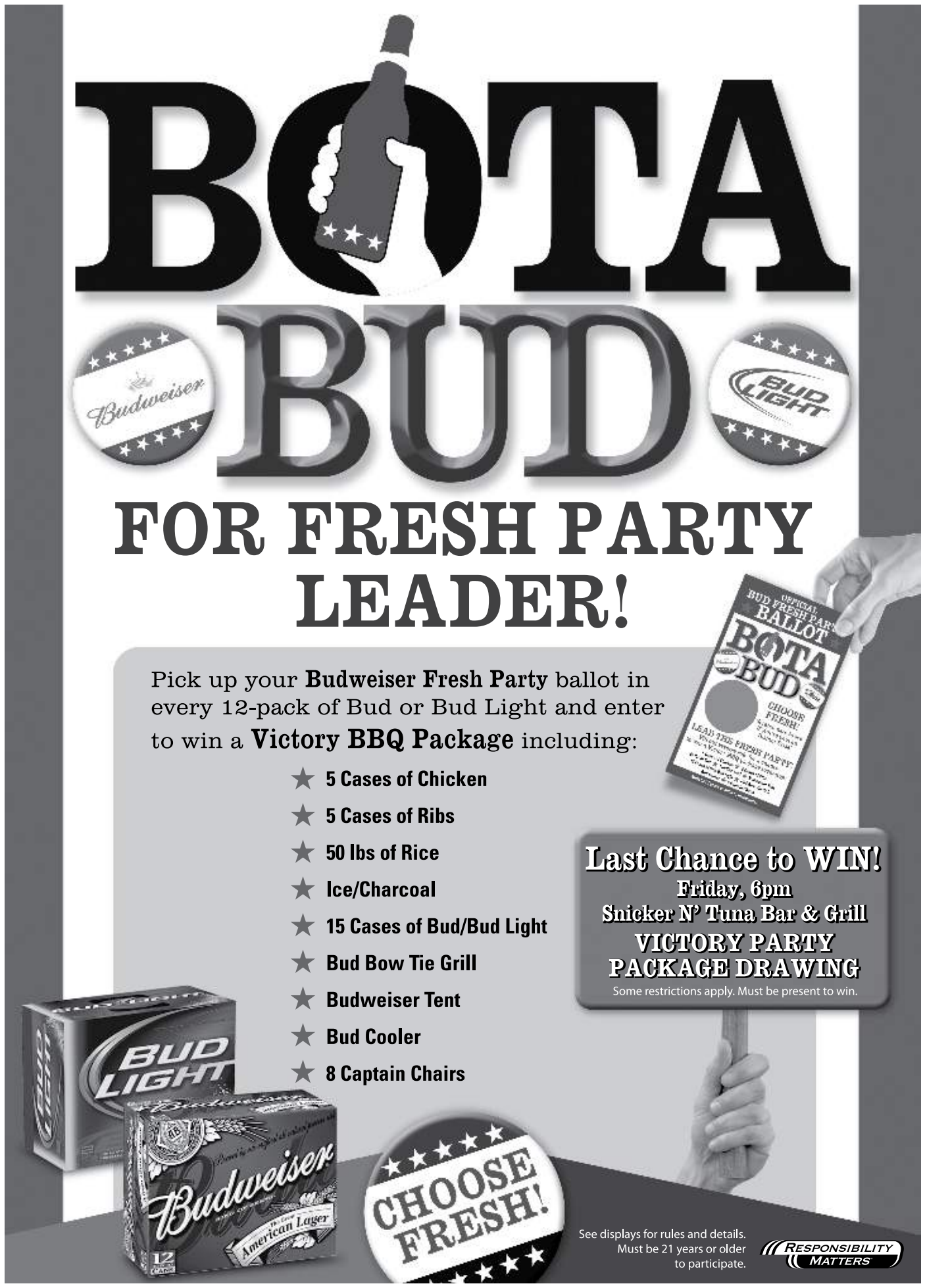
The Democratic Party of the Northern Mariana Islands will be holding Halloween events tomorrow, Oct. 31. Saipan mayoral candidate Angelo O'Conner Villagomez will he holding a Halloween barbecue lunch at the Oleai Beach pavilion on Beach Road. The event will begin at 12pm and will feature free candy and treats for the kids as well as lunch for all to enjoy. Donations are appreciated and welcome! A special award will be given to the person with the best Halloween costume so dress to impress and win yourself a prize.

On Halloween night, beginning at 6pm, there will be a trick-or-treat event at house number 43 in Tottotville. Candy and other treats will be handed out to all who come. The entire island community is encouraged to come down to Tottotville on Halloween night to participate in the time honored tradition of trick-or-treating. It will be a night to remember.

The 2009 NMI Democratic Party candidates include Justo Songao Quitugua for Saipan senator; Angelo O'Conner Villagomez for Saipan mayor; and Jesse Jones Torres and Willie Brundidge Jr. for Precinct 5 House of Representatives. ***(PR)***

Haunted House at GTC today

Today, the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School in San Roque will be having a "Haunted House" from 6pm to 9pm. Entrance fee will only be $2 per person and proceeds will go to purchasing new playground equipment for the lower grades. This is a great way to help out the community as well as have a great time. Join the school this Friday and don't forget all witches, ghosts and goblins are welcome. ***(PR)***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CHOOSE FRESH!
Last Chance to WIN!
Friday, 6pm
Snicker N' Tuna Bar & Grill
VICTORY PARTY PACKAGE DRAWING
Some restrictions apply. Must be present to win.
CHOOSE FRESH!
See displays for rules and details.
Must be 21 years or older to participate.
RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Advertising Features

MEI launches 'Kindness to Prevent Blindness' Program

Marianas Eye Institute has taken its mission statement—"Excellence with Love"—one step further with the introduction of its Kindness to Prevent Blindness program. This program helps underprivileged individuals that do not have the money to get the eye care they need and was developed out of the desire to reach individuals in need of eye care.

Marianas Eye Institute's CEO, Russ Quinn, states, "We pride ourselves in our outreach programs. In the past we have helped diabetic patients that were unable to pay for the needed care that comes from diabetic retinopathy. We wanted a program that could reach more people during these hard financial times. It's our way of giving back to the community."

The staff of Marianas Eye Institute opens their hearts and their busy eye clinic to those who need care but cannot afford it. "We wanted to put together a program that doesn't treat people as charity cases. We realize that people need a hand, not a handout," said Quinn.

Staff at Marianas Eye Institute stand by to take appointments for the Kindness to Prevent Blindness program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For this reason, everyone availing of the Kindness to Prevent Blindness program is required to make some payment—any payment. "We got the idea from a similar program in clinic in a small town with a depressed economy, and realized the program would be perfect for our community, and for our desire to give back."

Quinn said all the payments collected from these "Kindness" patients will be given to a charitable organization in the community.

"Instead of receiving charity, these patients are giving to a charity in this way, and we like the way that feels for everyone," explained Quinn. "As the recipient of these contributions, we've chosen Guma Esperanza—The House of Hope."

Marianas Eye Institute has set aside one appointment slot each day for a "Kindness to Prevent Blindness" patient. Individuals must call to make an appointment, and must identify themselves as wanting to participate in the program.

"Many times, clinics hold special days for such patients, which is wonderful, but we felt it was more dignified to accommodate these patients during our regular clinic schedule," said Quinn.

Dr. David Khorram, the co-founder of Marianas Eye Institute, and the director of its Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care, explained that the clinic is committed to help these patients with whatever eye problems they have.

"Whether people need just an exam, or even if they need glasses, or laser or even extensive testing or cataract surgery, we'll provide all of it, and only ask that the Kindness to Prevent Blindness patients pay whatever they can afford."

Marianas Eye Institute, which is also home to the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye care, is located across the street from the 13 Fishermen's Monument on Beach Road in Garapan. Call 235□9090 for an appointment. Detailed information regarding the clinic and its doctors is available at www.MarianasEye.com. ***(PR)***

All Souls' Day promo at Dollar Days

All Souls' Day is special day for everyone to remember their loved ones. And Dollar Days Wholesale will help you remember your loved ones without hurting your budget.

Florist Dominic Jacob said the Dollar Days sparing no effort in offering and providing its customers only quality flowers and best arrangement.

"Our newly arrived artificial flowers come in all colors, shapes, and sizes and are all at discounted prices," he said.

Jacob, who has spent more than a decade in flower arrangement, said candle arrangement is priced $15 and up, while vase flowers with elegant design are $30 and above.

Spray, wreaths, cross, basket and other grand arrangement are also in special prices, he said.

"We offer the affordable prices, best flower combination, and most elegant arrangement of any florist on the island and that's why we've always been the florist of choice every occasions," said Jacob.

Halloween Special

Dollar Days will also have its trendy Halloween costumes on sale and Jacob said everything in their inventory is being sold at a 30-percent discount.

"We have everything from princesses, to fairies, to ghosts, to monsters. You name the Halloween costume, we have it, he said.

For more information on Dollar Days' All Souls' Day and Halloween promotions, call 233-6688/233-2288.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Dollar Days Wholesale florist Dominic Jacob poses among the flower arrangements he designed.

WE ACCEPT WIC PROGRAM STARTING OCT. 1, 2009

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OCTOBER 30 TO NOVEMBER 10, 2009 • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

SHOP & LEAVE TOTALLY COMPLETE

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SELECTED ITEMS ARE LIMITED PER CUSTOMER • PRICES CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Leg Quarter 22 LBS. $15.99 33 LBS. LIMIT 1 $21.99

Whole Chicken LIMIT 1 CASE $33.99

Young Spare Ribs 10 LBS. $15.99

Pork Spareribs BBQ Adobo Cut 20 LBS. $14.99

Beef Back Spare Ribs 20 LBS. $19.99

Turkey Tail 20 lbs. $15.99

Mackerel PACIFIC 22.4 LBS. $20.99 PIKE 22.07 LBS. $23.99

Chorizos 4 lbs. 64 oz. $24.99

SEOK SU Dynamic Fresh 500ml. x 20 $5.99

AAA Milagrosa Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $25.99

Jasmine Lotus Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $24.99

Diamond G Calrose Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) $33.99

Ichiban Limit 1 CASE $8.99

Tasters Choice Pouch 8 oz. $6.99

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Gusto Ham 10 lbs. $15.99

Bar-S Ham 10 lbs. $16.99

Miller Sausage 5 lbs. $14.95

Chamorro Sausage Reg/Hot 1 lb. $4.49

Bar-S Bacon 1 lb. $2.49

Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. $1.09

Bonita Crabmeat Imitation 16 oz. $1.99

Ground Beef 5 LBS. $9.99 10 LBS. $16.99

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz. $3.99

Mackarel Family Bag $5.99

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. $2.99

Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand 1 lb. $2.59

Blue Crab Section Per Box $8.95

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. $4.99

Imperial Choice Green Mussels 2 lbs. $4.99

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. $5.99/PACK 5.5 lbs. $12.99/PACK

Milk Fish $1.39

Tilapia $.99¢

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen $1.99

Onion 79¢/LB

Garlic per bundle 89¢

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS $2.29

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. $1.39

Armour & Libby's Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 69¢

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz. 89¢

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 $2.29

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. $1.99

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. $1.99

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Master A1 Tuna 7 oz. Limit 6 99¢

3 Diamond Tuna $1.19

Sun Flower Mackarel 15 oz. $1.59

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. 99¢

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. 99¢

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn 89¢

Carnation Evaporated Milk 12 oz. $1.19

Crisco All Vegetable Shortening 3 lbs. $4.99

Dragon Veg. Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. LIMIT 1 $24.99

Garden Fresco Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. $6.99

Golden State Vinegar 1 Gal. $3.19

Crisco Pure Corn 64 oz. $7.99

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Spears) 1 Gal. $5.99

Kikkoman 1.6 L. $3.99

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. $4.99

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs. $2.99

Maseca 4.4 lbs. Limit 1 pc. $4.99

Coco Mackerel 15 oz. $1.29

Sugar 2 kg. $1.79

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. 69¢

Folgers Classic Roast 39 oz. $10.99

Coffee-Mate Creamer 50 oz. $7.99

Moist Deluxe Except Yellow Classic Cake 18.25 oz. 2 FOR $3.00

Kraft Cool Whip 8 OZ. $1.99 16 OZ. $3.50

Philadelphia Original Creame Cheese $3.99

Mazwell House 34.5 oz. $9.99

Argo Corn Starch $1.09

Nissin Cup Noodles 12 pcs. $5.99

Korean Butane Gas LIMIT 1 Case 3 days only (10/30 - 11/1) $19.99/CASE

Foam Cups 51 cnts. $1.99

Bounty Basic 15 ROLLS $15.99 6 ROLLS $8.99

Bounty 15 Rolls $19.99

Foam Plates 125 ct. $6.99

Sun Burst 29 loads (all scents) $3.99

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. $1.29

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. 2 FOR $3.00

Bottled White Candle 12 pcs/case $13.99/CASE

Drypers (All Size) Mega Pack $14.99

Luvs Big Pack (All Size) $19.99

Cottonelle Single 24 rolls Tissue $8.99

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. $5.99

FAMILY BAG SPECIAL

BEEF SHANK	$10.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	$7.95
FLANK STEAK	$16.95	BEEF OXTAIL	$16.95
PORK ADOBO	$10.95	BEEF STEW	$12.95
PORK CHOP	$11.95	RIBEYE STEAK	$17.95
PORK BELLY	$11.95	BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK	$14.95
STEWING CHICKEN	$6.95	SMOKED HAM STEAK	$12.95
TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	$4.99	PORK BUTT	$10.95
U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS	$13.99		

NON-FOOD

SOFT 'N GENTLE (12 ROLLS)	$4.99
CHARMIN (24 ROLLS)	$8.99
GAIN POWDER (120 LOADS)	$19.95
GAIN LIQUID (300 OZ.)	$16.95
JOY ULTRA LEMON DISHWASHING LIQUID (90 OZ.)	$6.99
SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.)	2 FOR $3.00
PLATINUM NAPKIN (360 CTS)	$3.99

Chamorro Punch 1 Gal. $9.99

Tang 22 qts. $5.99

Kool-Aid 32 oz. $7.99

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only $5.99

Whole Chicken Can 50 oz. $5.99

Real Fresh Milk (Regular only) $20.99/CASE 236 mL $16.99

Enfamil LIPIL Lipil 25.7 oz. $29.99

Enfamil Lipil with Iron 8 oz by 16 cans $41.99 per case

Coke Regular 24/Case Warm Only $12.99

Shasta Drinks Dr. Pepper 12oz (warm or cold) $9.99

Ritz Drink All Flavor (warm only) $12.99

Pepsi Regular Warm Only $16.99/CASE

Budweiser/Budlight 24/Case Warm Only $26.99

Business

Economy expected to grow in 3Q, heralding recovery

WASHINGTON (AP)—The economy appears back on its feet after being knocked over by the worst recession since the 1930s.

The big question: Will it still be standing after government supports are gone?

Many analysts expect the economy returned to growth in the July-September quarter, expanding at a pace of 3.3 percent. If they are right, it would end the streak of four straight quarters of contraction, the first time that's happened on records dating to 1947.

A turnaround would be the strongest signal yet that the economy has entered a new, fragile phase of recovery and that the recession, which started in December 2007, has ended.

The third-quarter growth rate forecast by Thomson Reuters would be the best showing since a 3.6 percent pace logged in the third quarter of 2007.

Feeding the rebound: hefty sales of cars and homes spurred by government support programs.

"It's good to have the economy growing again, we'll take it. But we don't think that rate of growth is sustainable because it is distorted by all the government stimulus," said Brian Bethune, economist at IHS Global Insight. "The challenge here is to get organic growth—growth that isn't helped by fiscal steroids."

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and members of President Barack Obama's economics team have warned that the nascent recovery won't be robust enough to prevent the unemployment rate—now at a 26-year high of 9.8 percent—from rising into next year.

Economists say the jobless rate probably nudged up to 9.9 percent in October and will go as high as 10.5 percent around the middle of next year before declining gradually. The government is scheduled to release the October jobless rate report next week.

The number of new people signing up for unemployment benefits probably nudged down to 521,000 last week, economists predict, in another report due out Thursday. Still, the number of people continuing to draw aid is expected to stay elevated at around 5.9 million.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs on Wednesday said the administration was hoping for growth in the third quarter, but noted that "in the president's mind, (there's) much work to do to ensure an environment that is helping to create jobs."

Rising unemployment and continuing difficulties by both consumers and businesses to secure loans are among the forces likely to weigh on the recovery.

With joblessness growing and wages stagnant, consumers are expected to turn more restrained in the months ahead. That would put a much heavier burden on America's businesses to keep the recovery going.

"A frequent question is: 'What happens when your fiscal stimulus wears off?'" said Edward Yardeni, president and chief investment strategist at Yardeni Research. "I maintained that the recovery should be increasingly self-sustaining once businesses started to rebuild their inventories."

Many economists expect businesses continued to cut their inventories in the third quarter, but not as much as the second quarter's record pace. Rebuilding stockpiles—something that's expected in the current quarter - would boost GDP, but less severe cuts likely didn't weigh down the economy as much in the July-September period.

Consumers, who cut spending in the second quarter, are expected to show a burst of energy in the third quarter. Some analysts predict consumer spending rose at a rate of at least 2 percent in the third quarter, with most of that going to buy new cars.

Auto sales were temporarily boosted by the government's Cash for Clunkers program. It gave people a rebate of up to $4,500 to buy new cars and trade in old gas guzzlers. After the program ended in August, auto sales tanked again.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil extends week-long losses, slides to near $77

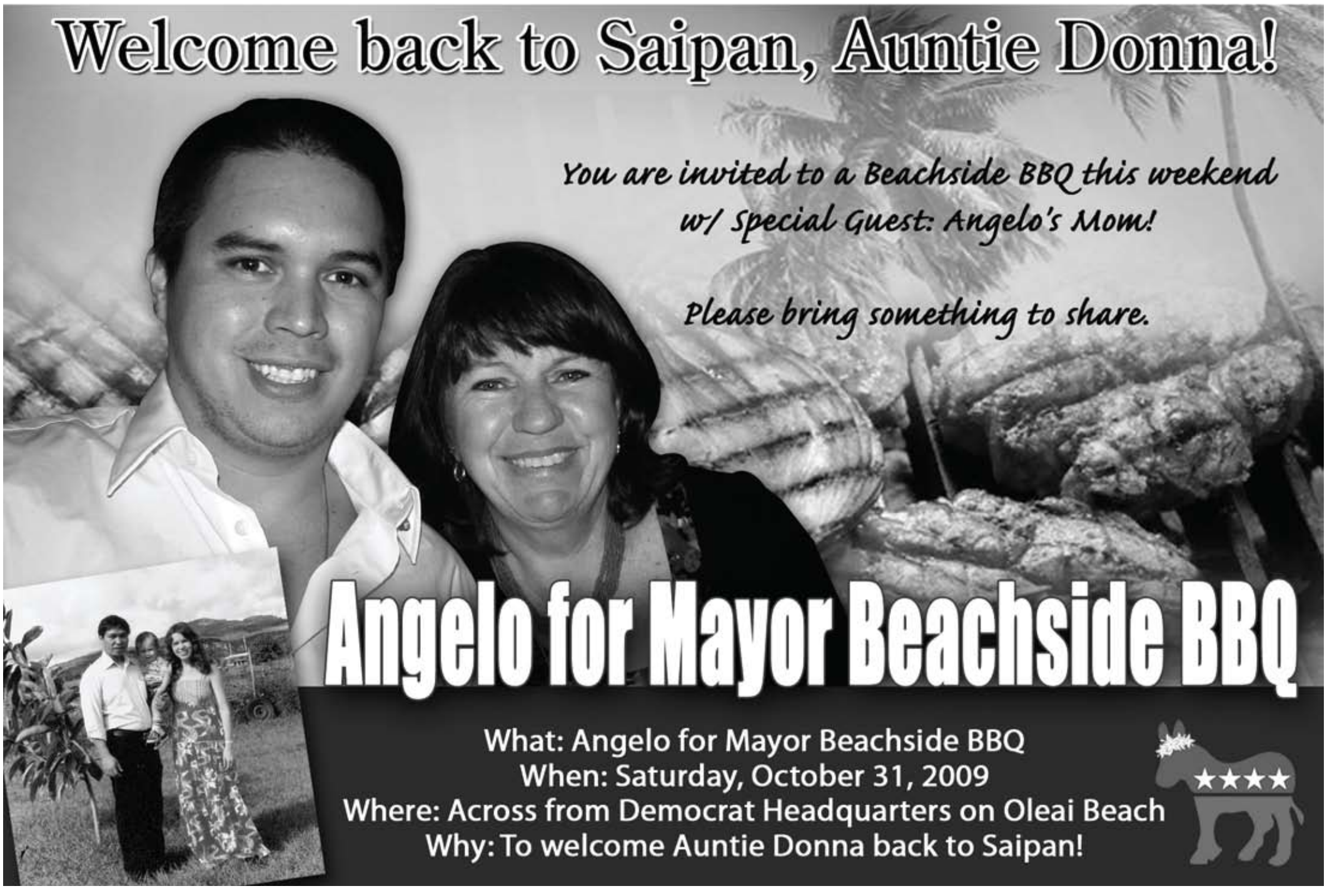
SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices slid to near $77 a barrel Thursday in Asia as an unexpected jump in U.S. gasoline supplies cast doubt on the strength of a recovery in crude demand. Benchmark crude for December delivery was down 35 cents to $77.11 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell $2.09 to settle at $77.46 on Wednesday. The Energy Information Administration said Wednesday that gasoline stocks rose 1.7 million barrels last week while analysts had expected a fall of 1 million barrels, according to a survey by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. Crude supplies rose 900,000 barrels last week, the EIA said.

Prosecutor: Bogus orders at heart of Ponzi scheme

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Businessman Tom Petters wanted to "live the life of a corporate tycoon," so he engineered a Ponzi scheme that bilked investors out of billions of dollars, prosecutors said at the start of his fraud trial Wednesday. While Petters' holdings included well-known and legitimate companies such as Polaroid Corp. and Sun Country Airlines, prosecutors say the heart of his business was a fraud they say reached $3.65 billion. "This case is about deceit, lies, falsified documents and an illusion of a corporate tycoon at the top of a fake corporate empire," Assistant U.S. Attorney Joe Dickson told jurors who were quickly selected Wednesday in U.S. District Court.

Boeing picks South Carolina for 2nd 787 line

Boeing Co. said Wednesday it will open a second assembly line for its long-delayed 787 jetliner in South Carolina, expanding beyond its longtime manufacturing base in Washington state. The Chicago-based airplane maker said it chose North Charleston over Everett, Wash., because the location worked best as the company boosts production of the mid-size jet, designed to carry up to 250 passengers. Boeing already operates a factory in North Charleston that makes 787 parts and owns a 50-percent stake in another plant there that also makes sections of the plane. ***(AP)***


Welcome back to Saipan, Auntie Donna!
You are invited to a Beachside BBQ this weekend
w/ Special Guest: Angelo's Mom!
Please bring something to share.
Angelo for Mayor Beachside BBQ
What: Angelo for Mayor Beachside BBQ
When: Saturday, October 31, 2009
Where: Across from Democrat Headquarters on Oleai Beach
Why: To welcome Auntie Donna back to Saipan!
★★★★

Nation

House Dems reach deal on key health care elements

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Democrats reached agreement Wednesday on key elements of a health care bill that would vastly alter America's medical landscape, requiring virtually universal sign-ups and establishing a new government-run insurance option for millions.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi planned a formal announcement Thursday morning, but details were still being finalized, lawmakers and aides said. Officials said the legislation could be up for a vote on the House floor next week.

The rollout would cap months of arduous negotiations to bridge differences between liberal and moderate Democrats and blend health care overhaul bills passed by three separate committees over the summer. The developments in the House came as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., tried to round up support among moderate Democrats for his bill, which includes a modified government insurance option that states could opt out of.

Reid met Wednesday with Arkansas Sen. Blanche Lincoln, who faces a potentially tough re-election next year.

The final product in the House, reflecting many of President Barack Obama's priorities, includes new requirements for employers to offer insurance to their workers or face penalties, fines on Americans who don't purchase coverage and subsidies to help lower-income people do so. Insurance companies would face new prohibitions against charging much more to older people or denying coverage to people with health conditions.

The price tag, topping $1 trillion over 10 years, would be paid for by taxing high-income people and cutting some $500 billion in payments to Medicare providers. The legislation would extend health coverage to around 95 percent of Americans.

"I'm pretty confident that we've got the right pieces in place," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, one of the three panels involved in writing the bill. "We can quibble over parts of it, but the fact is when you're taking a 60-year-old system that grew up in a rather haphazard fashion and you're trying to bring some coherence to it, these are sort of the things you have to do at the beginning of that process."

Plenty of work remains to be done before a bill could land on Obama's desk—and there's still no guarantee that Congress can complete the legislation before year's end, as the president wants. If Obama does sign a health overhaul bill, he will have bucked decades of failed attempts by past administrations, most recently by former President Bill Clinton in the 1990s.

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Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

PRINIPONEN ATKILON TANU PUBLIKU

Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku giya Chalan Kanoa Tanu Numeru 014 H 01, poku mas o`menos Kiñientus Ochentai Ochu (588) metru kuatdrao.

Maseha haye libre muna` halom opiñion pot este na priniponen usun tanu publiku. Siña muna` halom hau sentimientu guato gi kabesanten tanu publiku gi maseha manu na offisinan tanu entre Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Uttimu haane pot nina` halom opiñion i Nobembre dia 2, 2009.

I para u inatkila este na lugat i kompanian Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., kompania guine giya Marianas. I umiluluye este na kuetpon kompania i sigiente siha: Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, yan Bo Ok Shin. I offisiat siha: Eun Hie Shin, presidente; So Young Shin-Thouvenin, segundu presidente; Bo Ok Shin, sekretariu/tresurariu.

I man-atkikila para u usa i lugat para sagan kareta yan lokue sumasaonao ayo na fasilidat i humahatme gi tanu publiku. Este na atkilon si Señor Chang Wang Jang i munigosiu yan sumera i kontrata.

I tetminon este na kontrata para bente siñku años (25 years) ya libre lokue i umatkikila umekstende para talu kinse años (15 years) na tiempu.

I atkilon gaige gi monhayan na ripot mafananaan "appraisal", (ininan yan inestudian kuantu baliña i tanu publiku) ni para uma-atkila. I depattamienton tanu taya ha resibi otro propositu pot uson este na tanu publiku. I kopian i maproponen kontråtan atkilon siña machule' gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku Siha, gaige gi sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; i sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luta; pat i primet(1st) pisu gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

I Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ha risibi tåya' na tinahguen propositu siha para i atkilon suheton tåno' pupbliku giya Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

ARONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALAWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ekke isisiwow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eew falaweer toulap mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw Kka Efáng, Marianas.

Toulap kka eyoor mafiyeer reel pomwol akkiloon yeel rebwe afangalong me bwal sángi Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, arong yeel ebwe akkatéwow.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falaweer toulap ye ekke bwáári bwe Lot No. 014 H 01, ebwe yoor 588 sq meters, e lapeló ngáre e ghittiw, elo Elal Ghaloowa Seipél. Tilighiyal bwuley yeel elo Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer toulap ngáre óubwe amweri.

ii. Schóóy Akkiloon nge Mike's Manufacturing, Inc. Corporationul CNMI. Board of Directors llól Corporation yeel nge Ji Young Shin, EUN Hie Shin me Bo Ok Shin.

Samwoolul Cooporation yeel nge Eun Hie Shin, Arúschayúl So Young Shin – Thouvenin. Secretary me Treasurer nge Bo Ok Shin.

iii. Pomwol akkiloon yeel nge sángi yaal aweewe Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. Schóóy akkiloon ebwe yáayá bwuley reel parkingil ghareeta me encroaching building structure.

Tool pomwol akkiloon yeel nge 25 ráágh, me emmwel ebwe bwal sóbwusóbw ngáli 15 ráágh.

Pomwol akkiloonul llól ráágh nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (appraisal value) me bwal millikka e akkayú llól bwuley.

v. Pomwol Akkiloon yeel nge emmwel ebwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap, 2nd floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg. Dandan, Seipél, 2nd floor Bank of Saipan Commercial Bldg, Luuta, me ngáre 1st floor Kings Commercial Bldg. Tchúlúyól.

vi. Ese yoor bwal eew pomwol akkiloon Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap e Amwuschi bwe iye schagh elo Elal Ghaloowa,Seipél.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ebwe bwughi aghiyágh, Mángemáng me aingiing mereer schóókka re tipeli wóól me ngáre mmwal Ariyamoy 2, 2009, mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap mewóól Seipél, Tchúlúyól me Luuta.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 014 H 01, containing an area of approximately 588 square meters, more or less, situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, and Bo Ok Shin.

The President of the Corporation is Eun Hie Shin. The Vice President is So Young Shin-Thouvenin. The Secretary and Treasurer is Bo Ok Shin.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of maintaining vehicular parking space and an encroaching commercial building structure.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 2, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

ACROSS THE NATION

Obama visits Dover AFB to honor fallen soldiers

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AP)—President Barack Obama made a midnight dash to this air base Wednesday to honor the return of fallen soldiers, absorbing the ultimate cost of war as the United States endures its deadliest month of the Afghanistan campaign. On a clear fall night, Obama flew by Marine One helicopter to Dover Air Force Base to greet the flag-draped cases of 18 Americans killed in action this week. After landing, the president, wearing a dark topcoat, got into a motorcade to a base chapel, where he met privately with families of the fallen Americans. He had arrived on the base at 12:34 a.m. Thursday and was expected to be back at the White House before dawn.

Feds: Leader of radical Islam group killed in raid

DETROIT (AP)—A man described as a leader of a radical Sunni Islam group was fatally shot Wednesday afternoon while resisting arrest and exchanging gunfire with federal agents, authorities said. Agents at a warehouse in Dearborn were trying to arrest Luqman Ameen Abdullah, 53, on charges that included conspiracy to sell stolen goods and illegal possession and sale of firearms. Abdullah and 10 others were listed in a criminal complaint, but it was not immediately clear how many were in custody. He refused to surrender, fired a weapon and was killed by gunfire from agents, FBI spokeswoman Sandra Berchtold said. In a court filing, the FBI said Abdullah, also known as Christopher Thomas, was an imam, or prayer leader, of a radical group whose primary mission is to establish an Islamic state within the United States.

Swine flu prompts hundreds of schools to close

CHICAGO (AP)—The number of students staying home sick with the flu is multiplying nationwide and normally quiet school nurses' offices suddenly look like big city emergency rooms, packed with students too ill to finish the day. The federal government has urged schools to close because of the swine flu only as a last resort. But schools are closing by the dozens as officials say they are being hit so hard and so fast by the H1N1 virus that they feel shutting down for a few days is the only feasible option. "There was nothing else we could do," said Michael Frechette, the superintendent of Connecticut's Middletown Public Schools where a middle school closed for the rest of the week after 120 students stayed home sick Monday and another 25 were sent home by noon. "The only way to stop that transmittal was to keep the kids home for the rest of the week."

Storm dumps snow on Rockies, plains, more forecast

DENVER (AP)—A storm bringing the first heavy snows of autumn to a large swath of the Rockies and western plains crippled parts of Colorado and Wyoming Wednesday, forcing road closures and sending students home early as the region battled up to 2 feet of snow but braced for twice that. The slow-moving system socked Denver commuters with treacherous driving conditions—a strong punch for residents who were sporting short sleeves just a couple of weeks ago. Visibility fell below a quarter-mile in many areas, and forecasters warned the storm would linger at least another day. Forecasters said some areas high in the Rocky Mountains could have 4 feet of snow by the time the storm moved out Thursday. The storm spread a blanket of white from northern Utah's Wasatch Front to western Nebraska's northern border with South Dakota.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
PSS IFB 09-035

"MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS SECURITY SERVICES"

The Public School System (PSS) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for One (1) Year Campus Security Services for Marianas High School Campus on the island of Saipan located in the CNMI. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be placed in a sealed envelope maked "IFB # 09-035" containing (1) original and three(3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than November 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@pss.cnmi.mp. Questions shall be submitted no later than November 17, 2009.

All bids shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

UN workers scramble over roofs during Kabul attack

KABUL (AP)—Terrified U.N. workers scrambled over the roof or leaped from windows to escape choking smoke and gunfire after being awakened at dawn Wednesday when Taliban militants wearing police uniforms stormed a residential hotel packed with foreigners. The assault, which killed 11 people including three militants, was one of a series of brazen attacks aimed at undermining the Nov. 7 presidential election runoff. It underscored the risks facing U.N. and Afghan officials in organizing the vote and the massive challenge for the U.S.-led military force in curbing the determined insurgency. Those challenges were highlighted across the border in Pakistan, where a car bomb killed 100 people—mostly women and children—while visiting U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was in the capital of Islamabad pledging support for the Pakistani campaign against Islamic militants.

Afghan president's brother denies getting CIA pay

KABUL (AP)—Ahmed Wali Karzai, the brother of the Afghan president, on Wednesday denied reports that he has received regular payments from the CIA for much of the past eight years. The New York Times, citing current and former American officials, reported Tuesday that the CIA pays Karzai for a variety of services, including helping to recruit an Afghan paramilitary force that operates at the CIA's direction in and around Kandahar. Karzai called the report "ridiculous." "I work with the Americans, the Canadians, the British, anyone who asks for my help. They (CIA) do their own recruitment. I have no idea where they get their recruits. It's absolutely ridiculous," he told The Associated Press in Afghanistan.

Car bomb in crowded Pakistan market kills 105

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Suspected militants exploded a car bomb in a market crowded with women and children Wednesday, killing 105 people and turning shops selling wedding dresses, toys and jewelry into a mass of burning debris and bodies.

The attack in the northwestern city of Peshawar was Pakistan's deadliest since 2007 and came as U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton visited the country to offer support for its fight against a strengthening al-Qaida and Taliban-led insurgency based along the Afghan border.

Clinton was three hours' drive away in the capital meeting Pakistani government leaders when the bomb went off in Peshawar. Her trip was not announced in advance in Pakistan for security reasons.

The bomb was directed squarely at civilians, unlike many previous blasts that have targeted security forces or government or Western interests. While no one claimed responsibility, the bomb appeared aimed at undercutting public and political support for an ongoing army offensive against militants close to the frontier and showing that the government was unable to keep its people safe.

The shaky, U.S.-backed government said the bombing—the latest in a series this month—had strengthened its resolve to press ahead with the assault in the South Waziristan border region, a militant stronghold and a global training and operations hub for al-Qaida.

At least 60 of the dead were women and children. Most security analysts said the attack could backfire on the insurgents and lead more people to inform on them.

"He who kills a Muslim has no place but hell," said Mumtaz Ali, a wounded 19-year-old who was studying in a Muslim school attached to a mosque that was damaged in the attack. "We are taught the way of the prophet. We are not taught to kill innocent people."

The U.S. believes fighting the insurgents on the frontier is vital to defeating extremism in Pakistan as well as in Afghanistan, where Taliban militants with links to those in Pakistan are waging an ever more violent campaign against American and NATO troops.

Underlining the threat in both nations, Taliban militants in suicide vests stormed a guest house used by U.N. staff in the heart of the Afghan capital on Wednesday, killing 11 people—six of them U.N. staff, including one American.

The bombing just before 1:15 p.m. destroyed much of the Mina Bazaar in Peshawar's old town, a warren of narrow alleys clogged with stalls, shops and food sellers. The district drew mostly poor female shoppers and their children in this conservative city.

Fire swept through the area after the blast, sending a cloud of gray smoke into the air.

The wounded sat amid burning debris and parts of bodies. Men tried to pull survivors from beneath wreckage. One carried away a baby with a bloody face and a group of men rescued a young boy covered in dust, but others found only bodies of the dead.

"My son died here," one man cried.

A two-story building collapsed as firefighters doused it with water, causing more panic. Several hours later, people were still searching the debris for loved ones.

"There was a deafening sound, and I was like a blind man for a few minutes," said Mohammad Usman, who was wounded in the shoulder. "I heard women and children crying and started to help others. There was the smell of human flesh in the air."

Police officer Khan Abbas said the death toll rose to 105 after three bodies were recovered from the debris and two of the more than 200 wounded died overnight.

Clinton was a few hours into her first visit to Pakistan as secretary of state when the bomb exploded.

FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Precinct 1
SABLAN,

Antonio Pangelinan
#12
on the Ballot
Thank You for Your Support

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PSS HEAD START PROGRAM
P.O. Box 501370
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-3751 Fax: (670) 664-3760

Head Start Training-Office Closure for One Week

The entire staff of the CNMI Public School System's Head Start Program will be in training from November 2-6, 2009 (Monday-Friday). Therefore, there will be no classes and all offices will be closed. Normal operations will resume the following week on November 9, 2009 (Monday).

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP2010-CDA-02
SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 30, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FY2009 & 2010 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY"
COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, WAKIN'S BLDG., GUALO RAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO 235-7147.
PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.
/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

1st AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Procurement and Installation of Standby Generator and Building
Port of Saipan
Project No. CPA-SS-002-09

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), through a grant from the Office of Homeland Security, is requesting for proposals for design/build services for procurement and installation of one (1) brand new generator with controls, housing and fuel tank to be situated at the Port of Saipan.
A detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, September 11, 2009. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on ~~Friday, September 25, 2009 at 3:00 pm~~ at the Conference Room at the CPA Seaport Administrative Building. The project scope of work and location of the generator will be discussed. Attendance at this conference is mandatory for all companies interested in submitting proposals.

The contract period for design, installation and testing will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2009.**

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com no later than Oct. 19, 2009.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EDWARD B. MENDIOLA
Acting Executive Director
Date: October 14, 2009

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian space chief proposes nuclear spaceship

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia's space agency is planning to build a new spaceship with a nuclear engine, its chief said Wednesday. Anatoly Perminov told a government meeting Wednesday that the preliminary design could be ready by 2012. He said it will then take nine more years and 17 billion rubles ($600 million, 400 million euros) to build the ship. "The implementation of this project will allow us to reach a new technological level surpassing foreign developments," Perminov told a meeting which focused on communications and space technologies.

Israel drones to be used by Germany in Afghanistan

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel Aerospace Industries said Wednesday it would supply unmanned spy planes to Germany that will see action in Afghanistan early next year. The Heron drones will be deployed by the German air force in northern Afghanistan in early 2010 for reconnaissance missions, the company said in a statement. It would not reveal how many drones were sold or for how much but said it was a multimillion dollar deal. Germany's Federal Office of Defense Technology and Procurement confirmed it had signed an agreement to purchase the aircraft. Israeli drones have previously been supplied to coalition forces to gather intelligence data on Islamic militants in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Coyotes kill woman on hike in Canadian park

TORONTO (AP)—Two coyotes attacked a promising young musician as she was hiking alone in a national park in eastern Canada, and authorities said she died Wednesday of her injuries. The victim was identified as Taylor Mitchell, 19, a singer-songwriter from Toronto who was touring her new album on the East Coast. She was hiking solo on a trail in Cape Breton Highlands National Park in Nova Scotia on Tuesday when the attack occurred. She was airlifted to a Halifax hospital in critical condition and died Wednesday morning, authorities said.

World

UN chief says Iran should accept uranium plan

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon encouraged Iran on Wednesday to accept a U.N.-drafted plan to ship much of its uranium abroad for enrichment, saying it would be "an important confidence-building measure."

Iranian lawmaker Mohammad Karamirad said the government will formally respond on Thursday to the proposal to send enriched uranium out of the country for processing, according to the semiofficial ISNA news agency. Another Iranian lawmaker, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, said the country's top security body would make a final decision on the proposal later Wednesday.

Iran's refusal to suspend uranium enrichment has led to three rounds of increasingly tough U.N. sanctions. Tehran insists its program is purely peaceful and defends the right to develop fuel for electricity-generating reactors.

Even as the Iranian government mulls the deal for shipping uranium abroad, it has made clear it will push ahead with its nuclear program and continue enriching uranium.

The plan that Tehran is considering was formalized by the United Nations last week after talks between Iran and the United States, Russia and France. It calls for Iran to ship 70 percent of its low enriched uranium to Russia in one batch by the end of the year for further enrichment. It would then be sent to France to be made into isotopes for use in a Tehran research reactor.

The U.S. and its allies back the deal because it would, at least temporarily, leave Iran's uranium stockpiles too low to build a nuclear weapon—which they suspect is Tehran's real goal.

The secretary-general said Iran's decision to allow U.N. inspectors to visit a previously secret nuclear site near Qum "a positive step" and welcomed the draft agreement on uranium shipments.

"Agreement would constitute an important confidence-building measure and could set the stage for further advances in the negotiations between Iran" and the six world powers that have been trying to rein in its nuclear program, Ban said.

The idea for uranium shipments was broached at a meeting earlier this month in Geneva between Iran and the six powers—the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany.

Iran's state media have said the country will agree to the plan's general framework but will demand important changes.

Iranian state channel, Press TV, said Tehran is opposed to sending the entire shipment abroad at once, suggesting it wants to do it in stages.

The head of Iran's Foreign Policy and National Security Commission, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, was quoted by Iran's semiofficial ILNA news agency as sketching out a scenario in which Iran would send out portions of its low-enriched uranium stockpiles only after it receives a batch of reactor-ready rods.

Iran has also given hints that it may want to send less than 70 percent of its stockpiles abroad. On Monday, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said Iran might agree to "deliver part of (the low-enriched uranium) fuel which we currently don't need."

Diplomats from some of the countries involved insist, however, that the uranium shipment would have to be in one batch to be acceptable, or in two, at most, with little time elapsed in between.

If Iran makes the shipments in small batches, it would be able to make up for those small amounts quickly by producing more low-enriched uranium. That would mean Iran's stockpile would never be depleted enough to delay its ability to create highly enriched—or weapons-grade—uranium.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana islands 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

ALL VENDORS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

6TH ANNUAL ENERGY FAIR
Residential Energy Assistance Challenge (REACH)
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs

This is to inform and invite all vendors and interested parties to participate in our 6th year of DCCA-REACH Energy Fair, which will take place on Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 9:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m at the Garapan Fishing Base, across Kristo Rai Church.

All vendors in the area of lightings, refrigeration & air conditioning; energy labeled star products; alternative power sources; energy savings technology; glass window companies; construction companies; hardware stores; and pest control products, are very much welcome to participate in this fair.

This fair is an opportunity to educate members of our community about energy conservation and activities that promote responsible living here in our islands. In the past years, REACH program has provided low-income residents with resources in energy education and conservation. Vendors who participated in the REACH fairs in the previous years have found them to be rewarding, as they were able to provide quality and affordable products that are suitable to the needs of our communities that focus on conservation. In addition, the island communities have come to know that REACH Energy Fair is an annual event where everybody can come and see the latest developments in energy conservation technology.

So come and join us on this great event so that members of our island communities would get to know your products that would be beneficial to them for conserving energy and at the same time products for their health and safety.

Please fill out Vendor Participant Form and send it to REACH/LIHEAP Coordinator, Mr. George S. Fitial no later than October 28, 2009 via fax (670) 664-2570 or e-mail to georgefitial@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

"PROMOTE HEALTH AND SAFETY"

AP Interview: Cuba FM says ready for talks with US

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Cuba is willing to hold talks with the United States "on any level," Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez said Wednesday in conciliatory remarks aimed at the Obama administration.

Rodriguez said in an interview with The Associated Press the island nation was waiting for a response from Washington to Cuba's offer to broaden discussions.

His comments came despite a testy exchange between the top Cuban diplomat and a senior U.S. official just before the U.N. General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to condemn America's 47-year trade embargo.

This year's U.N. vote was 187-3 in opposition to the embargo, up from 185-3 last year, with only Israel and the tiny Pacific island nation of Palau supporting the United States. Micronesia and the Marshall Islands abstained both years.

It was the 18th year in a row that the General Assembly has taken up the symbolic measure, and the first since President Barack Obama took office in January, promising to extend a hand of friendship to Washington's traditional enemies.

That change in approach has been noticed by Havana, Rodriguez said.

"We are prepared to have a dialogue with the government of the United States at any level," the foreign minister told AP after the vote, adding that such talks must be held on the basis of mutual respect and sovereignty.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP)

This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Northern Marianas Hosing Corporation (NMHC) would like to announce to the CNMI general public that a funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and is administered by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is now available for assistance for all families and individuals who meet the criteria and eligibility of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:
The purpose of the **Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)** is to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless—many due to the economic crisis—and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are homeless as defined by section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302)

HPRP is focused on housing for homeless and at-risk households. It will provide temporary financial assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance. The funds under this program are intended to target two populations of persons facing housing instability: 1) individuals and families who are currently in housing but are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless or assistance to move to another unit (prevention), and 2) individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness (residing in emergency or transitional shelters or on the street) and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it (rapid re-housing).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CRITERIA:
- Person(s) who meet(s) definition of extremely low income (less than 30 percent of Area Median Income) as defined by Section 8; and
- Person(s) who is/are homeless (must meet at least one of the "Indicators of Homelessness" as follows); or
- Person(s) who is/are at risk of being homeless (must meet at least one of the "Risk Factors for Homelessness" as follows).

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE INCLUDE:
- Rental Assistance
- Security Deposits
- Utility Deposits
- Utility Payments
- Moving Cost Assistance
- Motel or Hotel Vouchers

INDICATORS OF HOMELESSNESS:
- Sleeping in an emergency shelter;
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, abandoned buildings, streets/sidewalks, and/or beaches;
- Staying in a hospital or other institution for up to 180 days but was sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for human habitation (cars, parks, streets, etc.) immediately prior to entry into the hospital or institution;
- Graduating from, or timing out of a transitional housing program; and
- Victim(s) of domestic violence.

(***Note***: HPRP personnel must verify, assess and document participant claims before certifying for eligibility.)

RISK FACTORS OF HOMELESSNESS:
- Eviction within 2 weeks from a private dwelling (including housing provided by family or friends).
- Discharge within 2 weeks from an institution in which the person has been a resident for more than 180 days (including prisons, mental health institutions, hospitals).
- Residency in housing that has been condemned by housing officials and is no longer meant for human habitation.
- Sudden and significant loss of income.
- Sudden and significant increase in utility costs.
- Mental health and substance abuse issues.
- Physical disabilities and other chronic health issues, including HIV/AIDS.
- Severe housing cost burden (greater than 50 percent of income for housing costs).
- Homeless in last 12 months .
- Young head of household (under 25 with children or pregnant).
- Current or past involvement with child welfare, including foster care.
- Pending foreclosure of rental housing.
- Extremely low income (less than 30 percent of Area Median Income).
- High overcrowding (the number of persons exceeds health and/or safety standards for the housing unit size).
- Past institutional care (prison, treatment facility, hospital) .
- Recent traumatic life event, such as death of a spouse or primary care provider, or recent health crisis that prevented the household from meeting its financial responsibilities..
- Credit problems that preclude obtaining of housing.
- Significant amount of medical debt.

SUB-GRANTEES INFO:
The following non-profit organizations and government agency was contracted by the **Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)** to assist and disseminate information of the **Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)** through funding made available by The **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**. The **CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD), Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. (NMPASI)** and the Coalition for Anti-Stigma of Mental Illness in the CNMI (CAMI).

Please contact the following Agencies for more information, assistance, and inquiries.

NMPASI will be accepting applications starting Monday October 26, 2009.

CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD) at 664-7000 (Voice) TTY: 664-7002 Fax: 664-7030
Website: www.cnmicdd.org

Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. (NMPASI) at 235-7273/4 (Voice)
TTY: 235-7278 Fax: 235-7275 Website: www.nmpasi.com

Coalition for Anti-Stigma of Mental Illness in the CNMI (CAMI) at 288-5293 (Voice).

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Sleepy Hollow church: No Halloween-themed weddings

SLEEPY HOLLOW, N.Y. (AP)—A church made famous by Washington Irving's short story, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," has rejected a couple's request to hold a Halloween-themed wedding. Lisa Panensky and Jim Nieves signed a contract 13 months ago to get married on Halloween at the Old Dutch Church in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. Church officials balked at the couple's plans to wear costumes and include theme music from "The Addams Family" and "The Munsters." The Rev. Jeff Gargano said he only recently learned of the Halloween theme. He offered instead to marry them in the cemetery of the 17th-century church, but the couple declined. The church has offered to refund their deposit. The couple say they may get married at home.

Man forgotten in Indiana jail cell for 12 hours

ELKHART, Ind. (AP)—Guards at a northern Indiana jail face disciplinary action and will receive additional training after a man was accidentally trapped inside a cell for 12 hours. Elkhart County Sheriff Mike Books said officers and supervisors on the jail's first and second shifts "failed to account" for 40-year-old Scott Roberts and that their actions were unacceptable. The department did not say what discipline staff members faced. Roberts said he was doing community service work on Saturday when a mop bucket propping open a cell door spilled and the door slammed shut. He wasn't released until after family members arrived at the jail looking for him about 10:30 p.m.

Man accused of corkscrew threat at public bathroom

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP)—Police arrested a 56-year-old man accused of threatening another man with a corkscrew at a public restroom in Riverfront Commemorative Park. A witness told police he saw a man holding a corkscrew in his hand while kicking the bathroom door and threatening to kill the man inside. No one was injured. Officers arrested the man on charges of menacing, unlawful use of a weapon and disorderly conduct. They confiscated the corkscrew. The man, who has no permanent address, was taken to the Benton County jail. Bail was set at $62,500 after his arraignment Tuesday afternoon.

Misdialed number leads to angry texts, shooting

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP)—Georgia police said a misdialed number led two strangers to trade hostile calls and text messages before arranging a meeting where one shot the other. Savannah-Chatham police spokeswoman Veda Lamar Nichols told the Savannah Morning News in a Wednesday story that man, 22, faces an aggravated assault charge. The 22-year-old suspect was jailed after a 24-year-old man was shot in a CVS parking lot around 2:30 a.m. Tuesday. Nichols said the victim was taken to Memorial University Medical Center in serious condition. She said the two didn't know each other but began arguing through phone calls and text messages after a misdialed number and arranged to meet in the store's parking lot. The suspect was taken to the Chatham County jail. Nichols said his vehicle was damaged during the incident.

Somali who claims to be centenarian marries teen

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—A Somali man who claims to be a centenarian has married a 17-year old girl. Ahmed Mohamed Dhore celebrated his marriage to Safiya Abdulle late Tuesday in central Somalia before hundreds of guests. Somali adolescent girls are often married off to older men. But it is rare for a man as old as Dhore to marry a girl of Abdulle's age. Dhore says he wanted to marry Abdulle for a long time but waited for her to grow up. He says his children and two other wives agreed to the marriage, as did Abdulle's parents. Dhore claims to be more than 100, but there is no way to verify the claim. This marriage was his 6th; three of Dhore's wives have died. Polygamy is widely practiced in predominantly Muslim Somalia.

Man awakened early allegedly starts broom fight

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP)—An Iowa City man has been charged with assault after getting into a broom fight with a woman. The Johnson County sheriff's office said the fight began when a 54-year-old man was awakened early Tuesday by a woman cleaning the house. Authorities said an argument between the two escalated into a fight, with the man pushing the woman and hitting her with a broom handle, causing minor cuts. The woman grabbed a broom to defend herself, striking the man on the head, causing a bump. Investigators determined the man was the primary aggressor in the assault. He was charged with domestic abuse assault without intent, causing injury.

Police: Man claimed God told him to steal car

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP)—Police said a man who smashed a window at a car dealership claimed he was following a higher calling. Police said a 36-year-old man was collared by a security guard at Freedom Dodge before he could get inside the showroom. WLEX-TV reported the man told the guard that God wanted him to steal a Dodge Charger. When police arrived, the suspect initially told them his name was "Seven." The man faces charges including criminal mischief.

Caring burglar returns ashes to grieving mom

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A burglar with a conscience returned a keepsake containing a boy's ashes to his Orlando mother after seeing the woman talk about it on television. The ashes were in a small vial that looks like a necklace. It, along with jewelry, money, a television and other things were swiped when Emely Santana's home was ransacked this week. Santana is still grieving the June death of 18-year-old son Giovanni Perez. She picks up his urn when she's sad to feel closer to him, and planned to give the necklace to her mother. Santana got her wish on Wednesday. The stolen vial reappeared in the back of her car, wrapped in the comics section of the newspaper. The other things are still gone, but the grieving mom said she can replace those.

Woman flashes $27,000 at Mass. bar, gets robbed

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—Massachusetts police say they are searching for two men suspected of robbing a woman of $27,000 after she flashed the cash in a Springfield bar. Sgt. John Delaney said on Friday that the 22-year-old woman was robbed Monday night by two men wearing dark clothing and bandanas, one armed with what appeared to be a semi-automatic handgun. According to police, the woman bragged in the bar of receiving the $27,000 from an insurance claim. Police say she was later robbed after she left the bar with a male friend. Delaney said the woman should have put her cash settlement in a bank.

Cops: Son drove as mom made heroin deliveries

GLOUCESTER, Mass. (AP)—A woman was arrested and accused of taking her 23-year-old son along with her on trips to buy and sell heroin. Nancy Fulford pleaded not guilty Tuesday in Gloucester District Court to charges of possession of heroin and distributing heroin. Her son, Timothy Fulford, was charged with knowing where heroin was kept. Police said they found 10 individually packaged bags of the drug in the 46-year-old woman's bedroom. A defense attorney assigned to the case, Martha Rice Martini, did not immedidately return phone calls.

American Red Cross
Club 200
MAJOR SPONSORS
Bank of Guam
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DOCOMO PACIFIC • CALVO AND CLARK, LLP
TAKE CARE • MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA
PACIFIC TRADING CO. • IT&E
And all Club 200 Ticket buyers
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GRACIOUS AND GENEROUS SUPPORT

Science & Technology

HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Q: How do I keep my e-mail intact after upgrading to Windows 7 if Win 7's installer will first remove Outlook Express or Windows Mail?

A: For users of Microsoft's e-mail applications, this may be the most confusing aspect of Microsoft's new operating system. But it is (somewhat) easy to fix.

Go to Microsoft's Windows Live download site (download.live.com) now, before you try to install Windows 7, and download the installer file from there. When you run it, click to clear the checkboxes next to all of its optional components to leave only Windows Live Mail. (These add-on programs aren't all bad — for example, I like Windows Live Movie Maker — but you can always run the "wlsetup-web" installer again if you want to expand your inventory of Windows Live applications.)

When Windows Live Mail first runs, the new program should automatically pick up your old Outlook Express or Windows Mail messages, address-book contacts and settings.

You can do this later; Windows Live Mail brought in a set of Outlook Express mail accounts even after 7's installer had wiped out Outlook Express and all of Windows XP. But by taking care of things upfront, you eliminate one worry.

■ ■ ■

Q: I'm happy with Windows Vista. How long can I hold out before I'll be forced to upgrade to 7?

A: You should be set at least through April 10, 2012, when Microsoft plans to end Vista's "mainstream support." But unless the company changes its practice, you can expect it to ship security fixes and other patches that don't add new features for about five years after that date. For example, Windows XP's mainstream support ended April 14, but Microsoft plans to continue "extended support" for that operating system until April 8, 2014.

■ ■ ■

Back up your data. Now, not later.

If you run either of Apple's last two versions of Mac OS X, you already have an excellent backup application in the form of Apple's Time Machine and only require an external hard drive to get going. Microsoft's upcoming Windows 7 will include a capable backup tool, too. Everybody else, consider the cheap backup options I reviewed in my column and on my blog last year.

Here are a couple of Windows alternatives:

■ If you use rewritable CDs or DVDs and use only Microsoft's Internet software, the free RightBackup Lite (http://rightbackup.systweak.com/download.php) comes preset to safeguard all your important files and settings.

■ Otherwise, try SyncBack Freeware (http://www.2brightsparks.com/freeware), but remember to tell this program to copy all your data, not just what's in your My Documents folder. Click the folder icon at the end of the "Source" line, then navigate to the folder inside the C: drive's "Documents and Settings" folder that's either named after you or, if not that, called "Administrator."

Which one you use isn't as important as your picking some kind of backup application and making it part of your computing routine.

IT'S RALLY TIME!
Please join
Heinz and Arnold
and the
Republican Party
for our FINAL RALLY in appreciation of You, the people of CNMI, for opening your hearts, ears, and doors for us during this campaign season.
Friday, October 30, 2009
Civic Center Beach
Roadside waving starts at 4 PM
Rally from 6 PM - 10 PM
Thank You for your Support!
On November 7, 2009
Please Vote
#1
HOFSCHNEIDER, Heinz Sablan
PALACIOS, Arnold Indalecio
www.heinzarnold2009.com
Please Vote Republican
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Hofschneider - Palacios

Life & Style

NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH

Join the largest writing contest in the world!

No judges. No prizes. Winning manuscripts deleted. Appeal remains a mystery.

There are some who say writing a novel takes awesome talent, strong language skills, academic training, and years of dedication.

Not true. All it really takes is a deadline—a very, very tight deadline—and a whole lot of coffee.

Welcome to National Novel Writing Month: a nonprofit literary crusade that encourages aspiring novelists all over the world to write a 50,000-word novel in a month. At midnight on Nov. 1, 150,000 writers from over 90 countries—poised over laptops and pads of paper, fingers itching and minds racing with plots and characters—will begin a furious adventure in fiction. By 11:59pm on Nov. 30, tens of thousands of them will be novelists.

NaNoWriMo is the largest writing contest in the world. In 2008, over 120,000 people took part in the free challenge. And while the event stresses fun and creative exploration over publication, more than 30 NaNoWriMo novelists have had their NaNo-novels published**,** including Sarah Gruen, whose *New York Times* No. 1 best seller, *Water for Elephants* began as a NaNoWriMo novel.

Around 18 percent of NaNoWriMo participants "win" every year by writing 50,000 words and validating their novels on the organization's Web site before midnight on Nov 30. Winners receive no prizes, and no one at NaNoWriMo ever reads the manuscripts submitted.

So if not for fame or fortune, why do people do it?

"The 50,000-word challenge has a wonderful way of opening up your imagination and unleashing creative potential like nothing else," says NaNoWriMo founder and program director (and 10-time NaNoWriMo winner) Chris Baty. "When you write for quantity instead of quality, you end up getting both. Also, it's a great excuse for not doing any dishes for a month."

CONTACT INFO

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Municipal Liaison for Elsewhere::Micronesia

LINDSEY GRANT
(510) 628-0327
press@NaNoWriMo.org

This writing challenge has a foothold in the tropics. The region known as "Elsewhere::Micronesia" currently includes writers on Saipan and in Guam.

"In the past, writers from Palau and the Marshall Islands have also participated in NaNoWriMo," says Jane Mack, four-time winner and the region's Municipal Liaison.

So far this year, six adventurous, brave and noble writers have signed up and set the Micronesia region as their home region. Two-time winner Joe Race is back, as are others trying to improve on their prior records and newbies joining in for the first time. Although six writers doesn't sound like a lot, Mack is confident there will be more NaNoWriMo participants in the region.

"Students at SSHS and at Kagman Elementary are showing signs of joining in," Mack said.

The kickoff "party" will be held today, Oct. 30, at 6pm at Oleai Beach Bar and Grill.

If you would like more information about National Novel Writing Month, or would like to talk to participants from the NaNoWriMo chapter in your area, visit the Web site at www.NaNoWriMo.org and set your region to Elsewhere::Micronesia, where you can visit the online regional forum. Or just come to the kick-off party. You can sharpen your pencils or dust off your laptop now, but writing starts only on Nov. 1, 2009! ***(PR)***

Fox News Channel, Obama administration talking

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox News Channel and the Obama administration are talking.

The network confirmed reports that Fox news executive Michael Clemente met at the White House on Wednesday with Robert Gibbs, President Barack Obama's press secretary. There were no details given about the meeting.

Fox has been battling with the administration, which contends the network operates more like a wing of the Republican Party than a news organization.

The meeting came a day after Fox anchor Shepard Smith apologized for a "lack of balance" following a political report where the Republican candidate for New Jersey governor was interviewed and the Democratic incumbent wasn't.

Fox correspondent Shannon Bream had wrapped up a live interview with GOP candidate Chris Christie on Smith's afternoon news show Tuesday when the anchor asked, "When will you be interviewing Jon Corzine?"

Bream replied that despite "multiple requests," Corzine hadn't made himself available for an interview.

"I didn't know that was about to happen," Smith then said. "My apologies for the lack of balance there. If I had control, it wouldn't have happened."

Smith is the network's chief news anchor and has even angered Fox viewers with some of his stories, including expressions of anger at the Bush administration's response to Hurricane Katrina.

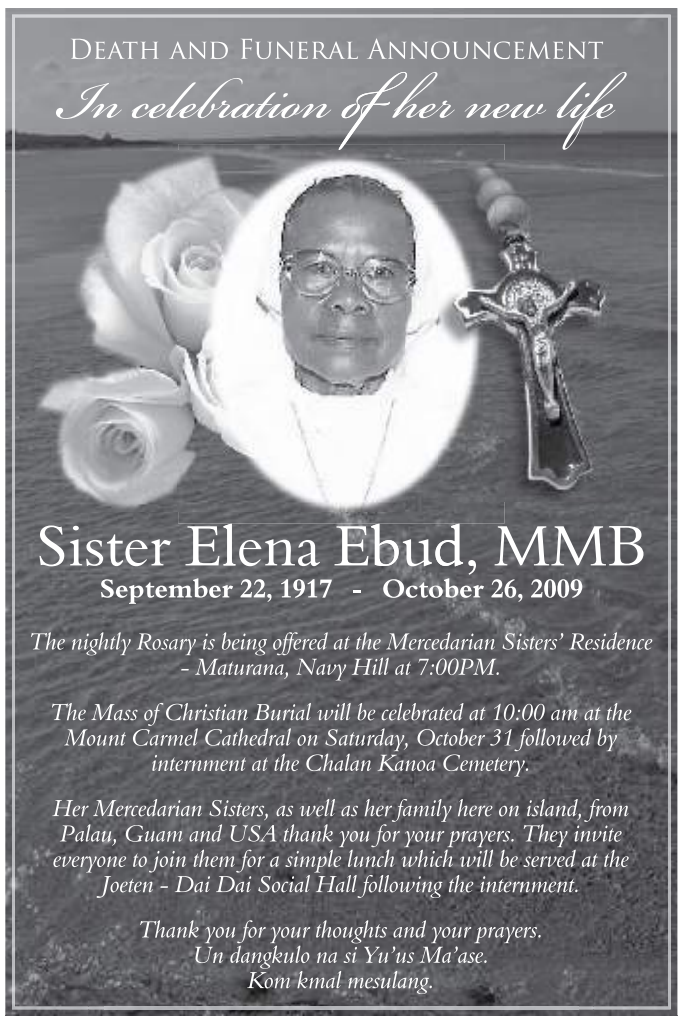
During Smith's second newscast on Tuesday evening, a New Jersey report included a Corzine sound bite given to the Fox broadcast network's New York affiliate.

The race in New Jersey is one of two marquee contests in 2009, along with the gubernatorial campaign in Virginia. Corzine trailed Christie in the early stages of the campaign, but recent polls show the governor has closed the gap.

Meanwhile, Fox received support Wednesday from an unlikely source: CNN's primetime host Campbell Brown. She interviewed Obama adviser Valerie Jarrett and asked whether the White House considered left-leaning MSNBC biased as well. Jarrett wouldn't speak about the network.

She "seems loathe to admit that MSNBC has a bias," Brown said. "And that is where I think the White House loses all credibility on this issue."

If the White House wants to talk about bias in the media, officials "should elevate the conversation and talk about bias on the right and on the left," Brown said. "Because when you just target one side, you reveal your own bias—that you are only critical of those who are critical of you."


DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT
In celebration of her new life
Sister Elena Ebud, MMB
September 22, 1917 - October 26, 2009
The nightly Rosary is being offered at the Mercedarian Sisters' Residence - Maturana, Navy Hill at 7:00PM.
The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am at the Mount Carmel Cathedral on Saturday, October 31 followed by internment at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.
Her Mercedarian Sisters, as well as her family here on island, from Palau, Guam and USA thank you for your prayers. They invite everyone to join them for a simple lunch which will be served at the Joeten - Dai Dai Social Hall following the internment.
Thank you for your thoughts and your prayers.
Un dangkulo na si Yu'us Ma'ase.
Kom kmal mesulang.

Spain starts exhuming purported Garcia Lorca grave

ALFACAR, Spain (AP)—Forensic experts on Wednesday began exhuming a mass unmarked grave that could hold the remains of the acclaimed poet Federico Garcia Lorca, in a milestone in Spain's drive to address the legacy of its 1936-39 civil war.

Working under a tent-like structure, the team started preliminary work staking out and cleaning surface soil at the site in southern Spain in preparation for digging in earnest, said Sara Gil, an archaeologist who is a member of the team.

"The excavation work has begun. I cannot say anything else," Gil told reporters.

Maribel Brenes, president of a local association of relatives of war-time missing, said the exhumation will get under way in earnest later in the week.

It is not clear if the writer's remains will ever be identified, however, because his family opposes the exhumation. The goal of the digging is to find and identify the remains of several men who, like Garcia Lorca, were executed in the opening days of the civil war and are believed to be buried along with him in the same grave.

The work is being done on a remote hillside area near the southern city of Granada, near where the men were killed by members of a militia loyal to Gen. Francisco Franco.

The war, which still divides Spaniards 70 years after it ended, pitted Franco-led rightist forces that rose up against an elected leftist Republican government and eventually prevailed, installing a dictatorship that lasted until Franco's death in 1975. The conflict and ensuing hardship left an estimated half a million people dead.

Both sides committed atrocities against civilians but Franco's government is known to have done a thorough tally of civilians executed by anti-Franco militia and gave them proper burials. Spanish judge Baltasar Garzon says 114,000 civilians killed by Franco forces were never accounted for.

AP

News photographers stand near the site where Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca is believed to be buried in Alfacar, near Granada, Spain, on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009.

Chavez: Sean Penn may make film in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez said he met privately with actor Sean Penn on Wednesday, and that the Oscar-winning celebrity may film a movie in Venezuela.

Penn may shoot a film based on a novel by Cuban writer Alejo Carpentier, which is set largely in the jungle along Venezuela's southern Orinoco river, Chavez said. He appeared to be referring to Carpentier's 1953 novel, "The Lost Steps," about an American anthropologist and composer's journey into the jungle region.

Penn's publicist could not immediately be reached for comment.

Chavez added that he discussed politics with Penn, who said he would soon see U.S. President Barack Obama. Chavez said he'd asked Penn to tell Obama he should take action to earn his Nobel Peace Prize, and should scrap a plan for the U.S. military to increase its presence at bases in Colombia.

"They gave him the Nobel Prize, very well, now he should earn it," the socialist leader said, paraphrasing an open letter by documentary filmmaker Michael Moore to the U.S. president.

Chavez also applauded Moore's work, and dismissed comments the director made during an interview with Jimmy Kimmel on ABC earlier this month. Moore said he'd drunk tequila with Chavez at the Venice Film Festival and offered the Venezuelan president suggestions for an upcoming speech at the United Nations.

The comments drew criticism from some of Chavez's supporters in Venezuela. But Chavez dismissed the controversy, saying it had been fueled by opponents who abused a comedic situation to suggest he'd been partying.

"They don't understand humor," Chavez said of his critics, pointing out the interview was held on a talk show hosted by a comedian.

Penn arrived in Venezuela from Cuba, where he was reportedly seeking an interview with the nation's ailing former leader, 83-year-old Fidel Castro. Last year, Penn was the first American to obtain an interview with Castro's younger brother, current President Raul Castro, after he was named interim president in late July 2006. The interview appeared in the Dec. 15 edition of The Nation magazine and on the magazine's Web site last November.

This is Penn's third visit with Chavez, who has welcomed a host of celebrities to the presidential palace, including supermodel Naomi Campbell and actors Danny Glover and Benicio del Toro.

Jackson film 'This Is It' earns $2.2M on 1st night

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson may be headed to the top of the charts again—this time at the movie box office.

"Michael Jackson's This Is It" took in $2.2 million domestically from its first late-night screenings, setting it up for a big full opening day Wednesday and a strong shot at a No. 1 debut weekend.

Those evening screenings alone were enough to top the $1.7 million that Paramount's fright flick "Paranormal Activity," last weekend's No. 1 movie, pulled in over the entire day Tuesday.

With Halloween at hand, "Paranormal Activity" expands into its widest release yet, about 2,400 theaters, compared to about 3,500 for "This Is It."

Distributor Sony said Wednesday matinees for "This Is It" already had surpassed the film's haul from those first evening screenings. The studio paid $60 million for worldwide rights to the film, which was distilled from more than 100 hours of footage shot as Jackson rehearsed for what would have been a 50-concert comeback run in London starting last July.

While "This Is It" is not quite a concert film, box-office watchers are gauging its success against "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert," the biggest concert movie on record. "Best of Both Worlds" had a $31.1 million opening weekend last year and pulled in $65.3 million domestically during its entire run.

"This Is It" so far has not approached any major box-office records. The best results ever for advance evening screenings came from "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," which took in $13.2 million Thursday night ahead of its official Friday release in summer 2006. "Independence Day" had the best Tuesday night advance results, with $11.1 million in summer 1996.

Still, "This Is It" already is well on its way to becoming a top-grossing music documentary.

Last March's "Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience" runs a distant second to "Best of Both Worlds in the concert-film record books, topping out at $19.2 million. "Madonna: Truth or Dare" follows with $15 million, and last year's "U2 3D" is fourth with $10.2 million.

"As a genre, concert movies and even documentaries aren't usually the type of films to bring in big box-office bucks, but because of his name and also the timing of it, I think it's a winner," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "That $60 million investment I think was worthwhile."

Sony, which opened "This Is It" simultaneously in 99 countries, plans to release worldwide box-office results Thursday for the film's first full day.

"This Is It" faces some hurdles over its first weekend, which falls on Halloween, when the main competition will be scary movies such as "Paranormal Activity" and "Saw VI."

Halloween day itself, which falls on Saturday, typically cuts into theater business, with many fans skipping movies in favor of parties.

'A Prophet' named best picture at London Film Fest

LONDON (AP)—Hard-hitting French prison drama "A Prophet" won the first-ever best film prize at the London Film Festival on Wednesday.

Jacques Audiard's thriller about a teenage prisoner's rise through the criminal ranks also took the second-place grand prize at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year.

Actress Anjelica Huston, one of the members of the London festival jury, called it "a perfect film ... an instant classic and a masterpiece."

The jury also gave a special mention to "The Road," John Hillcoat's adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's post-apocalyptic novel.

The 53-year-old London festival has introduced the best-picture prize this year as it tries to boost its profile to compete with better-known events in Berlin, Venice and Toronto.

Jack Thorne, screenwriter of "The Scouting Book for Boys," won the award for best British newcomer. The announcement was made at a dinner ceremony in London.

The festival also handed out documentary and first-feature prizes to films from the Middle East.

The Grierson prize for documentary was won by Israel's Yoav Shamir for "Defamation," a look at anti-Semitism around the world. Palestinian Scandar Copti and Israeli Yaron Shani took the Sutherland first-feature award for their jointly directed "Ajami," set in a mixed Jewish-Arab district of Jaffa.

Abigail Breslin set to play Helen Keller on B'way

NEW YORK (AP)—From spunky "Little Miss Sunshine" to an even more heroic young girl.

Abigail Breslin will play Helen Keller in the first Broadway revival of William Gibson's "The Miracle Worker," scheduled to open on March 3, producer David Richenthal announced Wednesday. Previews begin Feb. 12 at Circle in the Square Theatre.

Breslin

Alison Pill will portray Annie Sullivan, the determined instructor who teaches the deaf and blind Helen how to communicate.

"I am so honored," the 13-year-old Breslin said in an interview. "It's like the biggest thing in the world. ... I have read the biography of Helen Keller. So I've always known the story, and it's always been something I wanted to play.

"Helen is a hero of mine—for so many reasons. She never gave up on herself and she had so many people who believed in her like her teacher Annie Sullivan."

The production will be directed by Kate Whoriskey, who has extensive regional theater credits and recently was named artistic director of the Intiman Theatre in Seattle.

Richenthal, producer of acclaimed revivals of such classics as "Death of a Salesman" and "Long Day's Journey into Night," has long been a fan of the play, particularly since he was good friends with Gibson, who died in 2008.

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROVISION ARCHITECT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
RFQ10-GOV-006

702 CIP Project Managers

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Office of Capital Improvement (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting Statements of Qualifications from architect and engineers to provide project manager services for designated federally funded projects.

The Commonwealth has identified the need for additional project manager services for the Office of Capital Improvement during the upcoming 2010 calendar year. Project Managers will be required to assist in the implementation of the proposed management plan to develop critical infrastructures that will improve the quality of life for the people of the CNMI. Specific project assignments may include oversight of: project planning; permitting; vendor selection; design; construction; and close-out.

Selected architects and/or engineers ("Project Managers") will be retained as independent contractors under the general supervision of the Contracting Officer or his designee. Project Managers will act as agent of the expenditure authority on assigned capital projects to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within: cost; time; and legal requirements; while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected Project Managers will be retained on a one-year contract with an option to renew for an additional year at discretion of the Commonwealth.

Compensation for project manager services will be determined based on the required project management services for each assigned project. The Commonwealth will negotiate with selected Project Managers to determine the required scope of services for assigned responsibilities. Individuals or firms selected to serve as project managers would be precluded from providing any other services associated with the assigned project.

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work and submittal requirements ("Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements") at the Office of Capital Improvement Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Monday through Friday, except holidays). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements. A pre-proposal conference is schedule for this RFQ on October 30, 2009, 10:00 a.m. at the Commonwealth Division of Procurement & Supply, Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950. All submitted documents must follow submittal requirements.

Selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations § 70-30.3-305. Five copies of qualifications should be submitted to the Commonwealth Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 in a sealed envelope marked "Project Manager Qualifications RFQ10-GOV-006." Qualifications must be received prior to noon (Saipan Time) of November 6, 2009 ("Closing Date").

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following factors:
1. Past experience as a project manager – 35%
2. References – 30%
3. Interview – 35%

Interviews will be conducted with the individuals who are determined to have the most appropriate qualifications for the needs of the Commonwealth. Architect and engineering firms may submit qualifications, however, they must identify qualifications of specific individuals who are to be considered for the provision of these services and evaluation of qualifications will be based on the experience, references, and interview of the designated individual.

This project is funded through grants from the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (OIA). Contract award is contingent upon approval from DOI/OIA.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the government. All submitted documents shall become the property of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

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Michael Jackson's This Is It

Friday		4:30	7:15	9:45
Saturday	1:00	4:30	7:15	9:45
Sunday	1:00	4:30	7:15	
Mon thru Tues		4:30	7:15	

Michael Jackson
Musical, Documentary • Rated PG

Synopsis
A rare glimpse into the final days of Michael Jackson, the documentary is compiled from an estimated 80 hours of rehearsal and behind-the-scenes footage of the legendary entertainer preparing for his 50 sold-out shows at London's 02 Arena that were scheduled to commence in July 2009 before his untimely death in June at age 50. Interviews with collaborators and close friends of the late performer are also featured.

Astro Boy

Friday		4:15	7:30	9:40
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:30	9:40
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:30	
Mon thru Tues		4:15	7:30	

Freddie Highmore, Nicolas Cage
Action, Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis
Set in futuristic Metro City, the tale of a young robot with incredible powers created by a brilliant scientist named Tenma. Powered bypositive "blue" energy, is endowed with superstrength, x-ray vision, unbelievable speed and the ability to fly. Embarking on a journey in search of acceptance, Astro Boy encounters many other colorful characters along the way. Through his adventures, he learns the joysand emotions of being human, and gains the strength to embrace his destiny.

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs

Friday		4:10	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:10	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:10	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:05	

Anna Faris, James Caan
Animated, Children, Adaptation • Rated PG

Vampire's Assistant

Friday		4:00	7:25	10:00
Saturday	1:20	4:00	7:25	10:00
Sunday	1:20	4:00	7:25	
Mon thru Tues		4:00	7:25	

John C. Reilly, Chris Mssoglia
Adventure, Fantasy, Children • Rated PG 13

Law Abiding Citizen

Friday		4:25	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:00	
Mon thru Tues		4:25	7:00	

Jamie Foxx, Gerald Butler
Thriller • Rated R

Saw VI

Friday		4:05	7:10	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:05	7:10	9:50
Sunday	1:10	4:05	7:10	
Mon thru Tues		4:05	7:10	

Costas Mandylor, Betsy Russell
Horror • Rated R

The Stepfather

Friday		4:20		9:55
Saturday		4:20		9:55
Sunday		4:20		
Mon thru Tues		4:20		

Dyland Walsh, Sela Ward
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Where The Wild Things Are

Friday			7:20	
Saturday	1:30		7:20	
Sunday	1:30		7:20	
Mon thru Tues			7:20	

Katherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo
Fantasy, Children • Rated PG

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Multitasking daughter is driving toward disaster

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My daughter insists that she's a "multitasker"—too busy to telephone or text except when she's driving. It scares me to be in the passenger seat while she's talking on the phone or picking up toys the baby has dropped from his car seat.

I told her I won't talk to her while she's driving because I don't want to be a party to an accident she might be involved in, so she has stopped calling me altogether.

Don't these self-described multitaskers realize they are operating machines that can kill them or others while they shift their focus from the road? A man recently died in a head-on car crash as he crossed the interstate line. When the emergency vehicles arrived, his laptop was still running. What else can I say to my daughter when she doesn't "want to hear about it"?

TERRIFIED MAMA IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR TERRIFIED: The statistics I have read indicate that drivers using cell phones have the same risk of being involved in an accident as people who have been drinking. It is sad that your daughter is so overscheduled that she feels she must do two things at once.

However, until your daughter is ready to sharpen her maternal instincts, grow up and stop being defensive, there is nothing you or anyone can say that will cut through the static. I am truly sorry.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My twin sister, "Karina," and I will be seniors this year, and we're starting to look at colleges. It has always been "assumed" that Karina and I would attend the same college and be roommates. However, I think it's time for some separation. We're very close, and I would like us to attend the same college, but I think we should consider having different roommates.

Karina is hurt and upset that I don't want to continue sharing a room with her, pointing out that we've been "roommates" our entire lives and get along well, so why argue with success?

It has nothing to do with her. I just think it would be easier to expand our horizons if we're not just known as "the twins." We would still see each other often, and if things don't work out perhaps we can be roomies the following year.

My mother is shocked and thinks there's something wrong between us. I would appreciate another opinion.

THE OTHER TWIN

DEAR TWIN: Have a private talk with your mother and explain that as much as you love your sister, the time has come for both of you to explore your individuality. While the concept may be foreign to her, what you are contemplating would be a healthy opportunity for both of you. As the daughter of an identical twin, I can assure you that some degree of separation will be healthy and give you both a chance to grow.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am not ugly, but I am very unphotogenic. I take terrible pictures. At family weddings, I know photos are necessary and I cooperate. But the rest of the time I do not want to be photographed. Isn't this my right?

How can I, without offending anyone, prevent people from taking my picture? And am I the only person who feels this way?

NO PICTURES, PLEASE, KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEAR NO PICTURES, PLEASE: No, you aren't -- and people who know you and care about your feelings should respect them and not insist. If the shooter is a stranger or a casual acquaintance, all you need to say is, "I prefer not to be photographed." And if you are pressed, say you're in the Witness Protection Program.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Hart, Vito voted off 'Dancing with the Stars'

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Irvin pulled off another late comeback to survive on "Dancing with the Stars."

The former NFL star narrowly advanced through Tuesday's elimination episode that saw the exit of both actress Melissa Joan Hart and snowboarder Louie Vito.

Hart and her partner, Mark Ballas, were eliminated after a low score on Monday's show. Vito and his professional dancer, Chelsie Hightower, lost in a dance-off with Irvin and his partner, Anna Demidova.

"That's the game," said Hart, who starred on "Sabrina, the Teenage Witch." "It's tough. I was hoping to make it one more week."

On Monday's show, Vito dropped Hightower twice. In the judges eyes, he didn't further distinguish himself Tuesday with a slipshod performance to the song "I Fought the Law."

"This is a lot harder than it looks," said Vito. "Everyday I got out there and danced, I was proud of myself just for getting out there."

AP

In this Monday Oct. 26, 2009 photo provided by ABC, Mark Ballas and Melissa Joan Hart perform during "Dancing with the Stars" in Los Angeles.

Irvin, the Hall of Fame receiver for the Dallas Cowboys, managed to make it through despite several weeks of low scores. He has become a fan favorite, and judges mostly praised his crowd-pleasing samba to Charles Wright's Motown hit "Express Yourself."

Seven celebrity contestants remain on the ABC show: Irvin, entertainer Donny Osmond, model Joanna Krupa, singers Mya and Aaron Carter and TV personalities Mark Dacascos and Kelly Osbourne. Two more will be eliminated next week.

The contest show has been one of the most-watched programs on TV. Last week's episode drew more than 21 million viewers. On Tuesday, the much-celebrated young country star Taylor Swift also stopped by to sing several songs.

Ga. grand jury won't indict accused Cyrus stalker

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP)—A grand jury on Wednesday refused to indict a 53-year-old man jailed since August on charges that he tried to stalk Miley Cyrus as the teen star filmed a movie on the Georgia coast.

The Chatham County grand jury decided prosecutors had insufficient evidence to charge Mark McLeod of Appling, Ga., in Superior Court, which hears felony cases.

A spokeswoman for District Attorney Larry Chisolm said he still plans to prosecute McLeod on two misdemeanor charges, attempted stalking and disorderly conduct, in a lower court.

McLeod has been jailed since Aug. 4 after police arrested him twice over the summer on nearby Tybee Island, where 16-year-old Cyrus was filming the movie "The Last Song."

Police say McLeod told them he was engaged to marry the "Hannah Montana" star and resisted being escorted from the movie set.

James Byrne, McLeod's attorney, said he felt "vindicated, a little bit" by the grand jury's refusal to indict. Byrne said he suspects McLeod may suffer from mental delusions, but never posed a threat to Cyrus.

AP

In a Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009 photo singer and actress Miley Cyrus arrives at the "Concert for Hope" in Los Angeles.

"The grand jury showed some common sense, which no one else in this case seems to have, which is there's nothing to these charges," Byrne said. "He didn't stalk anyone, he didn't threaten anyone. He acted strangely, and that's why he's in jail."

McLeod initially was charged with only misdemeanors, but prosecutors had his case transferred to Superior Court last month so they could pursue a felony charge of obstruction of a police officer. They said he tried to head butt an officer who tried to lead him away, but the grand jury rejected it as a felony case.

Lydia Sermons, a spokeswoman for Chisolm's office, said prosecutors agreed with the grand jury's decision and decided to proceed with the misdemeanor charges.

McLeod remained jailed Wednesday on $55,200 bond, which Byrne says the unemployed assistant plumber and his family can't afford. Byrne said he planned to ask a judge to lower McLeod's bond once the misdemeanor charges are refiled.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Richest dead celebrity? It's not Michael Jackson

NEW YORK (AP)—According to Forbes magazine, the richest dead celebrity isn't Michael Jackson. Although the King of Pop's estate has been big news since his death in June, the top-earning dead celebrity is French fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent. Forbes released its ninth annual poll Wednesday. According to the magazine, Laurent earned $350 million in the past year. Much of his estate was auctioned off at Christie's in February. Laurent died of brain cancer in June 2008. Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein rank second with combined earnings of $235 million, followed by Jackson with $90 million, Elvis Presley with $55 million and J.R.R. Tolkien with $50 million. Charles Schulz, John Lennon, Theodor Geisel, Albert Einstein and Michael Crichton round out the top 10 list.

Swayze's widow feels sadness 'on a cellular level'

NEW YORK (AP)—Patrick Swayze's widow has told a crowd near Los Angeles that the loss of her husband of 34 years has left her with sadness "on a cellular level." Lisa Niemi, making her first public comments since Swayze's death last month from pancreatic cancer, told attendees Tuesday at a conference that her pain "made all the sadness and grief previous to that look like an intellectual concept." Though she cared for her husband during his 22-month battle with the disease, Niemi says grappling with the 57-year-old "Dirty Dancing" star's death was still "an animal all its own." Niemi was speaking to several thousand women gathered Tuesday for the annual nonpartisan Women's Conference in Long Beach, Calif.

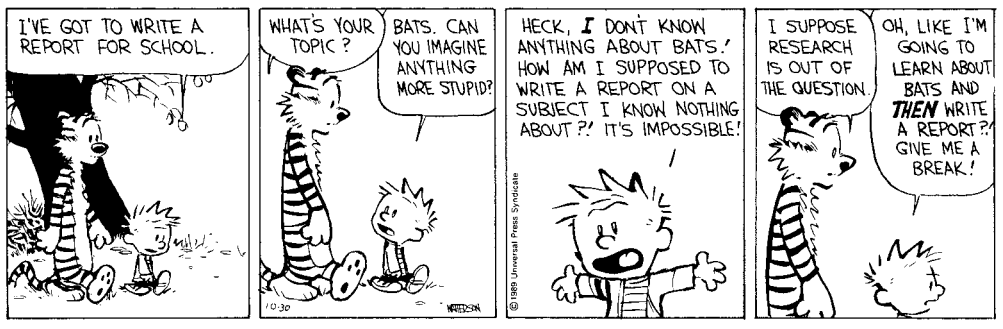
David Copperfield wins stay in assault lawsuit

SEATTLE (AP)—Magician David Copperfield has won a six-month stay in a lawsuit filed in July by a Seattle woman who contends Copperfield sexually assaulted her while she was a guest on his private island in the Bahamas. U.S. District Judge John Coughenour stayed the case Tuesday so the U.S. attorney's office in Seattle can complete a criminal investigation. Copperfield has denied the woman's allegations. Cooperfield said he was being put in the untenable legal position of having to provide information in the civil case that could be used against him in a criminal prosecution. The Seattle Times describes the woman as a former Miss Washington USA contestant. She says she met Copperfield during a performance in Kennewick, Wash., and was invited to visit his island in July 2007.

Pastimes

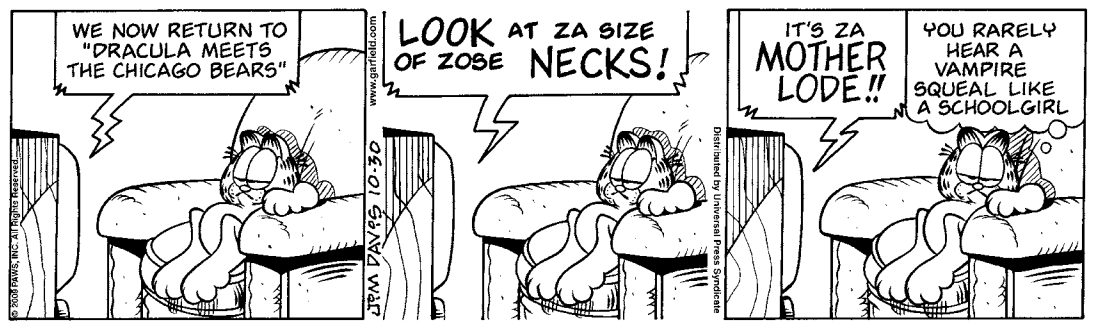
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I'VE GOT TO WRITE A REPORT FOR SCHOOL.
WHAT'S YOUR TOPIC?
BATS. CAN YOU IMAGINE ANYTHING MORE STUPID?
HECK, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT BATS! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO WRITE A REPORT ON A SUBJECT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT?! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I SUPPOSE RESEARCH IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
OH, LIKE I'M GOING TO LEARN ABOUT BATS AND THEN WRITE A REPORT?! GIVE ME A BREAK!

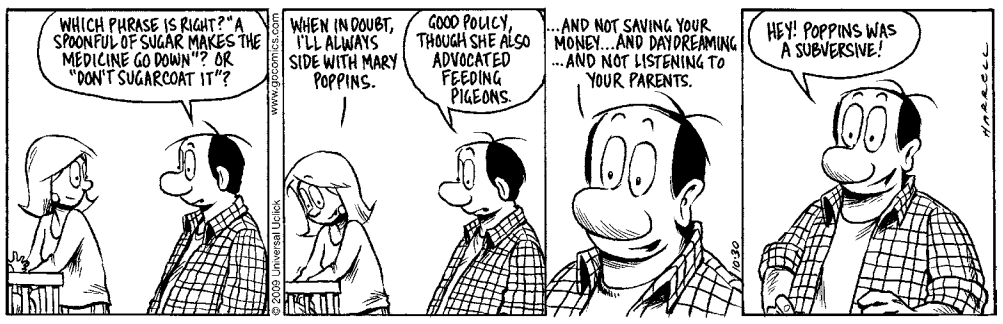
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


WE NOW RETURN TO "DRACULA MEETS THE CHICAGO BEARS"
LOOK AT ZA SIZE OF ZOSE NECKS!
IT'S ZA MOTHER LODE!!
YOU RARELY HEAR A VAMPIRE SQUEAL LIKE A SCHOOLGIRL

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHICH PHRASE IS RIGHT? "A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR MAKES THE MEDICINE GO DOWN"? OR "DON'T SUGARCOAT IT"?
WHEN IN DOUBT, I'LL ALWAYS SIDE WITH MARY POPPINS.
GOOD POLICY, THOUGH SHE ALSO ADVOCATED FEEDING PIGEONS.
...AND NOT SAVING YOUR MONEY...AND DAYDREAMING ...AND NOT LISTENING TO YOUR PARENTS.
HEY! POPPINS WAS A SUBVERSIVE!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

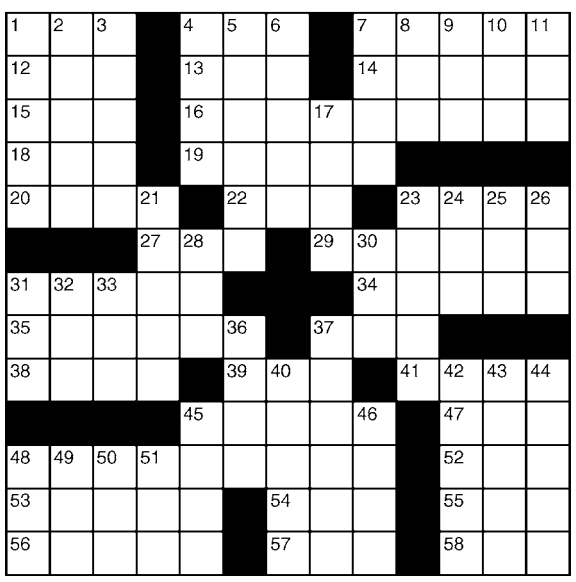
ACROSS
1 Cauldron
4 Harvest goddess
7 One of Franklin's certainties
12 Inseparable
13 Tear
14 Pond buildup
15 Felonious flight
16 Keeps changing one's mind
18 Shrill bark
19 Nimble
20 Front of a ship
22 Matterhorn, for one
23 Spill the beans
27 Rowing need
29 Private gesture?
31 Extra benefit
34 Orion's brightest star
35 Put through the blender, maybe
37 Morsel
38 Prayer ending
39 — Khan
41 Region
45 Concerning
47 Buddy
48 Pancakes
52 "Hail!"
53 Blood line?
54 Mauna —
55 Journey segment
56 Oil of roses
57 Bobby of hockey lore
58 Crafty

DOWN
1 Coral producer
2 Where the elated walk
3 Beat
4 Composer Carl
5 Post
6 Sales pitch
7 Loony
8 Right angle
9 Past
10 Spigot
11 Father and son
17 Energizes, with "up"
21 Made on a loom
23 A big rush
24 Drag along
25 Noshed
26 — canto
28 Nay canceler
30 Jackie's second mate
31 Coll. transcript stat
32 Piratic potation
33 Exist
36 Carvey or Delany
37 "Deal or No Deal" fixture
40 Insurance ad lizard
42 October birthstones
43 Belly-button
44 Plaintive poem
45 Open slightly
46 Despot
48 Sky safety org.
49 Parcel of land
50 Museum stuff
51 Bake sale grp.

Solution time: 25 mins.

I	D	S	■	D	U	E	T	■	D	A	I	S
N	O	T	■	E	Z	R	A	■	O	U	S	T
S	C	A	L	L	I	O	N	■	O	L	L	A
■	■	L	E	E	■	S	K	I	D	D	E	R
P	I	L	A	T	E	■	S	O	L	■	■	■
U	R	I	■	E	R	R	■	N	E	P	A	L
R	O	O	T	■	G	O	D	■	S	A	K	I
E	N	N	U	I	■	B	U	G	■	V	I	M
■	■	■	E	T	C	■	E	R	M	I	N	E
C	H	A	S	S	I	S	■	O	I	L	■	■
H	I	N	D	■	G	A	N	G	L	I	O	N
I	K	E	A	■	A	G	O	G	■	O	N	E
D	E	W	Y	■	R	O	S	Y	■	N	O	D

Yesterday's answer 10-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gavin Rossdale, 44; Harry Hamlin, 58; Henry Winkler, 64; Grace Slick, 70

Happy Birthday: This is a great time to expand your mind, your circle of friends or to choose your life destination. There is new ground to cover and lots to incorporate into your lifestyle. This year, invest in yourself and your future. Reviewing past experience and its lessons will enable you to move forward and accomplish longtime goals. Your numbers are 3, 7, 16, 24, 28, 33, 42

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Challenge yourself physically and you will alleviate stress and tension due to other people's actions, comments and general complaints. Focus on the people you love. A romantic opportunity will arise that can change the course of your life. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't be fooled by someone's reluctance to speak up. There will be trouble brewing that must be talked about before things can be resolved. Ignoring the problem will only make matters escalate. Stay calm. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You have to set your mind on things that count and that you can actually do something about. A relationship you have will improve your status. Take an active role in a cause you believe in. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Do what needs to be done and move on. You have to find ways to enhance your own emotional attitude. Consider doing something you enjoy. Whatever you do, put your needs first for a change. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): If something is bothering you, get it out in the open instead of pouting and ruining your whole day. Not everyone is going to want to do things your way or join in your plans but that doesn't mean you should change your direction midstream. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Look to your past and you will realize that perhaps you are making a similar mistake. Don't let your emotional insecurity cause you to make changes you will live to regret. A connection you make through your work may confuse you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't let things get you down when you have so much to look forward to. A little fun and entertainment will lift your spirits and help you connect with people who will offer you plenty to think about. Love is on the rise and an unusual job will interest you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Go after your goals. Now is not the time to stop, no matter what others are telling you. Anyone acting negatively is probably threatened by your intentions. Believe in yourself. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't stir things up at home. Good fortune is with you but that doesn't mean you should gamble. Consider collecting an old debt or looking into an unfinished claim you made or even getting involved in a safe investment. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You will be restricted from doing some of the things you had planned if you don't stick to the rules. Take precautions and make sure that everyone you are dealing with is on the same page. A change of plans may be necessary. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Someone may not be forthcoming about feelings or what is wanted in return for something you have requested. Don't take anything for granted. Don't make donations or contributions you cannot afford. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll find it difficult to express your personal needs. Once you see the implications that can arise from your actions, you will have a better idea what's required of you. Avoid secrets—they will only lead to confusion and misunderstandings. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have pizzazz and charisma that draws people to your side. You are giving, supportive and quick to find solutions. You are emotional.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2		8	6				
					9	7		1
	1	9				5		
	5							9
2								6
3							1	
		2				9	3	
7		6	5					
				1	4		8	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	1	5	6	3	4	8	7	2
6	2	3	9	7	8	1	5	4
4	7	8	1	2	5	9	3	6
7	3	1	8	5	2	4	6	9
2	5	4	7	6	9	3	8	1
8	9	6	3	4	1	5	2	7
3	8	2	4	1	6	7	9	5
5	4	7	2	9	3	6	1	8
1	6	9	5	8	7	2	4	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/29

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JOHN HUGHES (1950-2009) **Solution: 6 letters**

O	E	O	E	Y	D	N	I	K	(K)	K	M	L	I	F
H	P	T	U	T	S	W	S	(C)	H	O	O	L	L	E
R	O	P	A	T	O	I	(O)	A	Y	O	I	U	A	R
S	L	M	O	E	D	(R)	X	P	T	R	B	N	U	R
E	E	A	E	R	R	O	W	T	F	B	R	C	G	I
L	N	K	M	P	T	C	O	A	E	N	E	L	H	S
I	O	T	O	P	S	U	M	R	H	E	U	E	A	E
B	L	S	B	J	O	E	N	B	S	L	N	B	R	L
O	A	A	U	T	R	O	M	I	N	G	I	U	V	D
M	J	F	L	I	C	S	N	A	T	A	O	C	A	N
O	O	K	C	O	N	N	E	S	J	I	N	K	R	A
T	H	A	M	I	E	M	E	N	A	C	E	C	D	C
U	N	E	A	D	C	H	I	C	A	G	O	S	Y	E
A	D	R	I	L	L	B	I	T	C	L	A	S	S	R
Y	T	B	E	E	T	H	O	V	E	N	P	I	N	K

© 2009 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 10/30

Alone, American, Automobiles, Beethoven, Brat Pack, Breakfast, Candles, Chicago, Class, Club, Comedy, Create, Dennis, Drillbit, Ferris, Film, Flubber, Glenbrook, Harvard, Hefty, Home, James, John, Jokes, Kind, Lampoons, Laugh, Menace, Nancy, Opportunities, Outdoors, Pink, Planes, Pretty, Reunion, Rock, School, Sixteen, Trains, Uncle Buck, Wrote

Yesterday's Answer: Closeness

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Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-8801
FAX: (670) 234-1251

Attorney for Petitioner
CASIANO B. MATSUNAGA and
ELSIE O. MATSUNAGA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter of the Adoption of **N.G.R.M. (dob 05/11/2007) and T.I.M.A. (dob 07/05/2008, Minor Children** **By** **CASIANO B. MATSUNAGA and ELSIE O. MATSUNAGA** **Petitioners.**	FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0519 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Notice is hereby given that Casiano B. Matsunaga and Elsie O. Matsunaga filed a verified Petition for the adoption of minor children N.G.R.M (dob 05/11/2007) and T.I.M.A. (dob 07/05/2008) in the Commonwealth Superior Court. The original petition is available for review at the Office of the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Law Office of Danilo T. Aguilar, P.O. Box 505301, First Floor San Jose Court Bldg., Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way, San Jose Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A hearing on the above-entitled matter will be held on November 12, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Superior Court, Susupe Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 28th days of August, 2009.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **MELINDA T. TAKAI,** Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 09-0264** **AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE–NAMED DEFENDANT MARVIN A. ADA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOUR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan MP 96950**; and in case of failure to do so judgement will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 5th day of August, 2009

/s/ Berndita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

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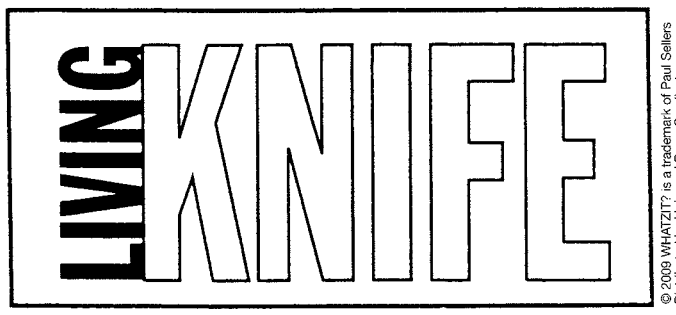

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Lee, Utley, Phils top Yanks in World Series opener

NEW YORK (AP)—The ho-hum catch that tickled his teammates, the behind-the-back snag that looked so easy.

Cliff Lee could have been clowning around with his kids. Hard to believe it was Game 1 of the World Series at Yankee Stadium, of all places.

Lee outdueled CC Sabathia, Chase Utley homered twice and the Philadelphia Phillies kept rolling through October, beating New York 6-1 on a misty Wednesday night in the opener.

"To be honest I really never have been nervous in the big leagues. This is what I wanted to do my whole life," Lee said.

The defending champion Phillies shut down Alex Rodriguez & Co. in the first Series game at the new billion-dollar ballpark. Trying to become the first NL team to repeat since Cincinnati in 1975-76, the Phils' 17-4 postseason run is the best in league history.

Big Red Machine, meet the New Red Machine.

"We have confidence. We know we have a good team," Utley said.

Game 2 is Thursday night, with wily Pedro Martinez pitching for the Phillies against jumpy A.J. Burnett.

Lee bamboozled the Yankees with a spiked curveball, deceptive changeup and his usual pinpoint fastball, pitching a six-hitter while striking out 10 without a walk. He became the first since Don Newcombe in 1949 to fan double digits with no walks in a Series game.

The lefty blanked the Yankees until a run scored on shortstop Jimmy Rollins' throwing error in the ninth inning. Lee improved to 3-0 with an 0.54 ERA this postseason.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Cliff Lee pitches to the New York Yankees during the fifth inning of Game 1 of the Major League Baseball World Series Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, in New York.

He really seemed to enjoy himself, too.

"Game time is the time go out there and have fun and let your skills take over. It's kind of weird. Boils down to confidence and trusting your teammates," he said.

If Lee felt any anxiety in his Series debut, facing the team that led the majors in wins, homers and runs, it didn't show. And if the Phillies were supposed to be intimidated by the pictures of Babe Ruth and all the Yankees greats on the giant videoboard, it didn't happen.

Pitching in short sleeves on a blustery evening, Lee worked a wad of gum while he worked his spell over the Yanks.

Lee did a lot of the work himself. When Johnny Damon hit a little popup to the mound, Lee merely stuck out his glove hand to the side and caught the ball as if it were an apple falling from a tree.

"You know, it was pretty cool," Lee said. "It was 15 feet in the air. Pretty simple catch. It came right to me."

That play left the Phillies laughing. Later, he made a nifty, behind-the-back stop on Robinson Cano's one-hopper. He threw the ball to first and shrugged. Easy.

That play stumped Ryan Howard.

"I was like ... wow. Am I missing something? It was so nonchalant, so casual," the Phillies first baseman said.

Said Lee: "I try not to go over the edge and be cocky."

Howard reprised his NL championship series MVP performance, doubling twice and driving in the final run. Barely looking like the 2-to-1 underdogs they are, the Phillies were in such control that many fans left before the final out.

Lee beat his good friend and former Cy Young teammate Carsten Charles Sabathia in the first game at this ballpark back in April, and got this chance after the Phillies traded four minor leaguers to Cleveland in July to get him.

Rodriguez went hitless and struck out three times in his Series debut.

"I did keep it simple today. He kept it even more simple," Rodriguez said. "He threw the ball well. When a guy comes out like that, you tip your cap and move on. He made some pretty good pitches."

Derek Jeter did the most damage against Lee, doubling and singling twice.

"He was great. He's been pitching like that the whole year, the last two years, the postseason," Jeter said. "I don't think it's much of a surprise."

So Game 1 went to the Phils. But as Yankees manager Joe Girardi observed, "One thing, he can't pitch every day."

Playing in their 40th World Series, and first in six years, the Yankees went quickly. "As the game went on, it got quieter," Utley said.

Utley's solo home runs in the third and sixth innings gave Lee all the support he needed. Raul Ibanez hit a two-run single in the eighth and Shane Victorino added an RBI single in the ninth.

The Phillies' may have been a bit overdue - in their only other October meeting, the Whiz Kids from Philadelphia got swept by the Yankees in the 1950 World Series and totaled just five runs.

Even though he's an All-Star, Utley was an unlikely candidate to rock Sabathia, the MVP of the ALCS. Utley was 0 for 7 with five strikeouts against the big Yankees lefty going into the game.

Utley won a nine-pitch duel with Sabathia in the third, pulling a 95 mph fastball barely over the right-field wall. The shot was the first by a left-hander allowed by Sabathia at home this year.

Utley struck again in the sixth, sending another 95 mph heater deep into the right-center field bleachers.

Phillies manager Charlie Manuel had little to do except watch from the top step of the dugout. Girardi was busier, bringing in five relievers after Sabathia left following the seventh inning with Phillies ahead 2-0.

First lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden were among the crowd of 50,207, as were a few specks of fans dressed in Phillies red. Yankees owner George Steinbrenner watched from an upstairs box - he has yet to see his team win in the palace he built.

After a rocky postseason, umpires faced just one tricky call and got it right. They huddled after Rollins trapped a popup and threw to first, and correctly ruled it a double play.

Heat roll past Knicks in opener, 115-93

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade picked up where he left off. So did the defenseless New York Knicks.

Wade began defense of his NBA scoring title with 26 points, Jermaine O'Neal finished with 22 points and 12 rebounds, and the Miami Heat opened their season with a 115-93 win over the Knicks on Wednesday night.

New starting power forward Michael Beasley scored 21 for Miami, which shot 9 of 25 in the first quarter - then a staggering 26 of their next 31 over the next 20 minutes, on the way to building an 85-59 lead.

Put that into perspective: The Heat missed fewer shots (five) in more than 1 1/2 quarters than New York's Al Harrington did (six) in the second quarter alone.

David Lee scored 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds for New York, which was 32-50 last season, its eighth straight losing campaign. Danilo Gallinari added 22 off the bench for the Knicks, who were 10 of 39 from 3-point range.

Miami shot 14 of 17 from the floor in the second quarter, following that up with a 14 of 21 showing in the third. Meanwhile, New York was the gang that couldn't shoot straight: The up-tempo Knicks were only 5 of 28 from 3-point range through three quarters, plus only managed eight fast-break points in the game's first 37 minutes.

Daequan Cook scored 15 for Miami, with Mario Chalmers adding 11. Wilson Chandler finished with 21 for New York, which got 15 from Harrington.

The Heat retired former point guard Tim Hardaway's No. 10 before the game, then gave him the best seat in the house, courtside and opposite Miami's bench.

Given all the Knicks-Heat tussles he was part of as a player, he had to enjoy this show.

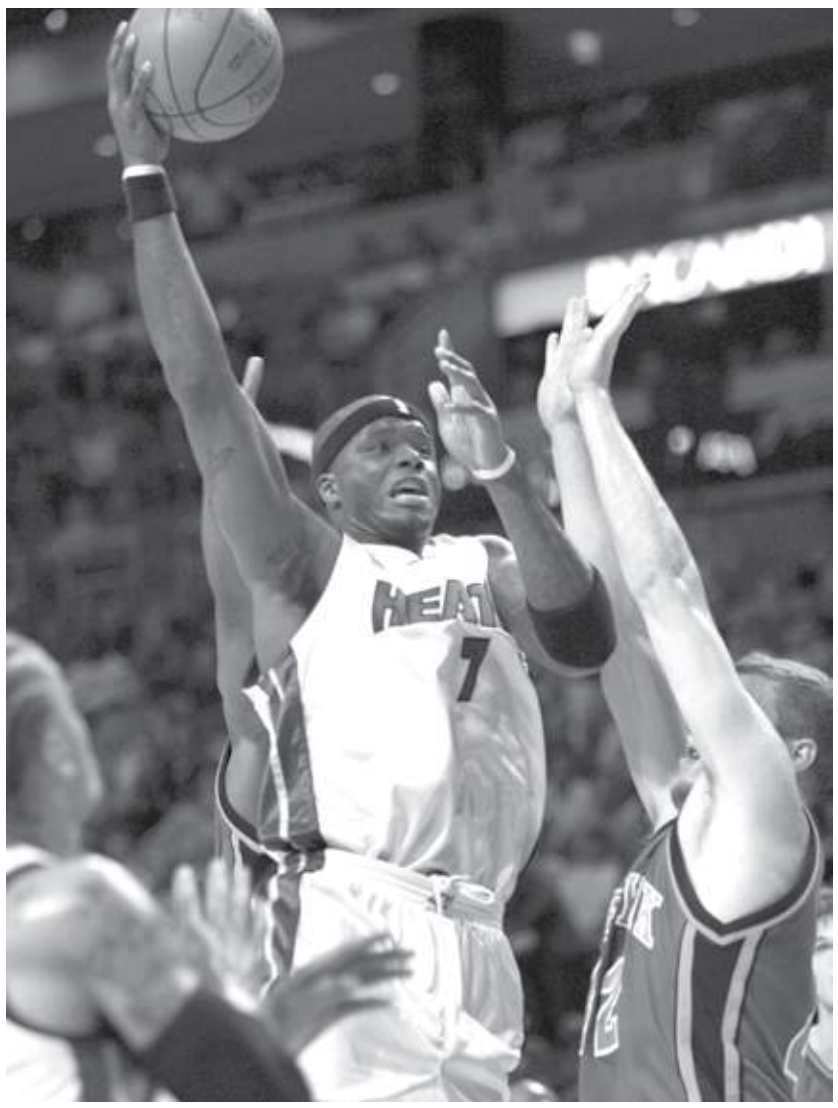
"What a night," Hardaway said.

Hours before the start of the 2009-10 season—predictably—Wade fielded questions about 2010-11, especially since both the Knicks and Heat are expected to be major players in the long-expected free agent bonanza next summer. Wade can opt out of his contract and become a free agent, joining that fray.

"Not thinking about it," Wade said wryly.

Forget 2010. It sure seems like Miami wants to win right now.

Three dunks in a 40-second span late in the half - O'Neal on a rare breakaway for a center, Wade after Harrington missed a slam at the Knicks' end, and then O'Neal again on a nifty bounce pass into the heart of the lane by Chalmers—gave Miami a 10-point lead.



AP

Miami Heat center Jermaine O'Neal (7) goes up for a shot against New York Knicks center David Lee, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009, in Miami.

And in the third quarter, the dam burst.

Miami put it away with a 32-8 run, turning a 58-51 game into a 31-point embarrassment. O'Neal had 10 points and six rebounds in the third quarter alone, and the Heat outrebounded the Knicks 13-5 in the period.

Even Quentin Richardson, the former Knicks forward who was traded away this summer—then traded again and again before landing in Miami—got into the act, making a 3-pointer with 8:05 left in the third, then giving the New York bench a long look.

It kept getting worse from there for the Knicks.

Gallinari made a 3-pointer with 9:26 left, cutting Miami's lead to 92-70 and forcing the Heat to call time-out. He hit another 3 a half-minute later, but the outcome was never in doubt.

Celtics 92, Bobcats 59

At Boston, Kevin Garnett scored 10 points with seven rebounds during 26 easy minutes in his return to the Boston court as the Celtics held the Charlotte Bobcats to a team-low score in a victory in their NBA home opener.

Ray Allen scored 18 points and was the only Boston starter to play in the fourth quarter as the Celtics followed their opening-day victory over Cleveland with a blowout of the Bobcats. Paul Pierce scored 15, Rajon Rondo scored 10 with 11 assists and Rasheed Wallace came off the bench with three 3-pointers.

Shelden Williams had 12 points and nine rebounds as a reserve.

Gerald Wallace had 10 points and 12 rebounds—the only Bobcat to reach double digits in scoring.

Magic 120, 76ers 106

At Orlando, Florida, Dwight Howard had 21 points and 15 rebounds, Vince Carter scored 15 points and new-look Orlando rolled to a victory over Philadelphia.

Ryan Anderson added 16 points, and Jason Williams had 15 points to highlight a deep Magic bench. Orlando went ahead by 23 points at halftime.

Marreese Speights had 26 points, and Elton Brand added eight points in his first regular-season game since missing most of 2008-09 with a right shoulder injury for Philadelphia.

Hawks 120, Pacers 109

At Atlanta, Joe Johnson scored 25 points, Al Horford had 24 and Atlanta finally played some defense in an offensive shootout, pulling away in the fourth quarter for a season-opening victory over Indiana.

Danny Granger led Indiana with 31 points but only one other starter was in double figures.

Raptors 101, Cavaliers 91

At Toronto, Andrea Bargnani scored 28 points, Chris Bosh had 21 points and 16 rebounds, and Toronto overcame LeBron James' 25th career triple-double to beat Cleveland.

James had 23 points, 12 assists and 11 rebounds, but Cleveland opened its season with consecutive losses for the first time since 2004.

Mo Williams scored 16 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 12 for Cleveland.

Hedo Turkoglu scored 12 points in his Raptors debut, and Jose Calderon had 11 assists.

Thunder 102, Kings 89

At Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant had 25 points and 11 rebounds, Jeff Green added 24 points and Oklahoma led from start to finish in a victory over Sacramento.

Nenad Krstic added 20 points and Russell Westbrook had 14 points and a career-high 13 assists for the Thunder.

Kevin Martin led the Kings with 27.

Spurs 113, Hornets 96

At San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 17 points before leaving the game after a hard fall as San Antonio beat New Orleans.

Parker landed with a thud on his right side after slicing between fellow All-Star Chris Paul and Hilton Armstrong for a layup. He lay wincing for more than a minute before walking back to the bench on his own.

Paul led all scorers with 26 points and Emeka Okafor had 18 points and 10 rebounds in his Hornets debut after sitting out the preseason with an injured toe.

Timberwolves 95, Nets 93

At Minneapolis, Jonny Flynn scored 13 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter to help Minnesota erase a 19-point deficit and Damien Wilkins' putback at the buzzer lifted the Timberwolves to a victory over New Jersey.

Minnesota trailed by 16 points with less than 7 minutes to play but closed the game on a 24-6 run to steal the victory.

Brook Lopez had 27 points, 15 rebounds and four blocks for the Nets but he didn't score in the final period.

Pistons 96, Grizzlies 74

At Memphis, Tennessee, Richard Hamilton scored 25 points, Ben Gordon added 22, and Detroit ran away from Memphis.

Marc Gasol led Memphis with 21 points and 15 rebounds.

Rockets 108, Warriors 107

At Oakland, California, Luis Scola scored 15 of his 21 points in the third quarter and grabbed 11 rebounds, and Aaron Brooks had 18 points and 12 assists as Houston held off Golden State.

Anthony Morrow missed a would-be tying 3-pointer under pressure in the waning seconds and Stephen Curry scored the putback at the buzzer.

Trevor Ariza scored 14 of his 25 points in the first quarter.

Suns 109, Clippers 107

At Los Angeles, Steve Nash scored 15 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter, when he rallied Phoenix to a season-opening victory over the Los Angeles Clippers.

Grant Hill had 19 points and 13 rebounds, Leandro Barbosa added 17 points, Amare Stoudemire 16 and Channing Frye 12 for the Suns, who won their fifth in a row over the Clippers.

Marcus Camby had 23 points and 11 rebounds for Los Angeles. Eric Gordon added 16 points, but missed a potential game-winning 3-pointer in the closing seconds.

Nuggets 114, Jazz 105

At Denver, Carmelo Anthony had a game-high 30 points and rookie Ty Lawson scored seven of his 17 points in a pivotal fourth-quarter run to lift Denver over Utah.

Chauncey Billups finished with 25 while Kenyon Martin added 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Deron Williams led Utah with 28 points and 13 assists. Andrei Kirilenko and Ronnie Brewer each contributed 16 on a night when two-time All-Star Carlos Boozer struggled, finishing 3 of 14 and scoring 12 points—most coming late. He also had 11 rebounds.

Griffin has broken left kneecap

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Blake Griffin is about to add patience to his repertoire of basketball skills while his broken left kneecap heals.

It's a vital quality for somebody trying to turn around the Los Angeles Clippers.

The NBA's No. 1 overall draft pick will be out for up to six weeks with the stress fracture, likely delaying his debut until mid-December—and creating one more reason to believe there's a curse on this star-crossed franchise.

"It's disappointing, especially when it happened, but I'm not going to feel sorry for myself," Griffin said Tuesday at the club's Playa Vista training complex. "Everybody plays with a certain amount of pain, but it is a fine line, because you do want to take care of your body and make it easier on yourself."

Griffin watched the Clippers' 99-92 season-opening loss the Lakers on Tuesday night from behind the bench in a three-piece suit and blue tie, waving to fans shouting encouragement from the stands. The former Oklahoma star won't be allowed back into practice until his fracture has healed in several weeks.

Griffin wore shorts and no knee protection while watching the Clippers' morning shootaround. He will undergo bone stimulation and special blood treatments that will limit his activities for at least a month, and he plans to swim for exercise.

Coach Mike Dunleavy believes the process will be frustrating, but hopefully instructive for a power forward whose relentless work ethic sometimes leads him to rush his recovery time and even play through pain unnecessarily.

"He needs to be more honest with his body and with our medical personnel," Dunleavy said. "There are times when he's telling us he's fine, he's good, and he's feeling some pain. ... He understands better the potential consequences now. Give us the information, and we'll decipher it and figure out what you should play through, but I think he understands now."

Griffin was hurt during a preseason game last Friday, wincing in pain as he came down from a dunk late in the third quarter. He claimed as recently as Monday afternoon that he would play through the discomfort, but an MRI revealed the stress fracture Monday.

"He could play on it, but it won't get better," Dunleavy said. "Once that became apparent, there was no question: Let's shut it down. Him playing at a lesser level isn't going to do us much good."

While he's out, the Clippers will move on with a fairly solid roster. Marcus Camby, Chris Kaman, Rasual Butler, Craig Smith and Al Thornton all are capable of playing significant frontcourt minutes.

Dunleavy isn't sure whether the broken kneecap is related to the bruise that Griffin sustained on the same knee in late September. That injury didn't keep him from playing in the preseason, when he averaged 13.7 points and 8.1 rebounds while appearing fully ready for the NBA challenge.

Favre says he doesn't think he'll be that nervous

Pittsburgh Steelers safety Ryan Clark, left, pressures Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre in the first quarter of the NFL football game in Pittsburgh, Oct. 25, 2009.

AP

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—Before Brett Favre's first preseason game with Minnesota, a meaningless performance featuring all of six snaps, he was nervous and nauseous.

In the last hours before the Vikings played his former team at the Metrodome, Favre muttered to himself, "Man, I'm losing it."

So how anxious must he be THIS week? It's the highly hyped rematch in Green Bay at Lambeau Field, where betrayed fans will be waiting with what could be a cold welcome and the Packers are eagerly preparing to avenge their recent defeat.

"I don't think it'll be as bad," Favre said, "but I don't know that."

The NFL's all-time leading passer wearing rival purple and white—rather than the home green and gold—in his return to the site where he played 16 exceptional seasons, helped revive the famed franchise, and played on a Super Bowl winner will go down as one of the most memorable moments in sports history.

Just don't expect the man around which this story revolves to reveal a mental or emotional breakdown in anticipation of Sunday's main event.

"I think that's probably more intriguing to everyone else," Favre said.

He expects a mixture of cheers and boos, but insisted "there's no sentiments" about the upcoming trip. Favre recalled Wednesday scooter rides with his youngest daughter, Breleigh, around the stadium concourse to combat the winter blahs, but beyond that he wasn't in a reminiscent mood. He's already been in the visiting locker room at Lambeau for photo shoots, and he's even been booed there before during a handful of bad games.

This will be a unique experience, but Favre is more concerned about the NFC North race between the Vikings (6-1) and Packers (4-2). After appearing stiff and tired during his news conference, Favre loosened up and joked about checking fan mail from Wisconsin for "something ticking" or "white powder." He revealed that only two of his family members are going to the game, denying that a bunch of hotel rooms for his relatives had already been booked this summer.

"I'm way too cheap for that," Favre said.

Vikings coach Brad Childress didn't plan any special talks with his quarterback.

"He's a 40-year-old man, as you know," Childress said.

Perhaps this classic scene from the 1980 comedy "Airplane" is the true reflection of Favre's feelings: The lead character, Ted Striker, tells the lady sitting next to him early in the film that he's nervous.

"First time?" the woman asks, shortly before the flight begins.

"No, I've been nervous lots of times," Striker replies.

Sure, Favre will feel his stomach stirring as he takes the field Sunday afternoon with the Vikings and hears the boos—however many there are—emanating from the stadium bowl. Considering the significance of the game, the fans are bound to be at their loudest. After failing to generate any pass rush in Minnesota's 30-23 victory at the Metrodome, Green Bay's defense could bring a more aggressive approach.

After kickoff, though, butterflies usually return to their cocoon. Yes, playing the Packers is a big deal and being a visitor at Lambeau is a first, but the motivation of a 7-1 record is stronger.

"To me, being able to focus, being relaxed, kind of seeing things clearly as they're happening, is a much better and more productive way to play," Favre said. "Being nervous and having anxiety and things like that, I don't think can be a plus when you're in a decision-making role."

Teammate Ryan Longwell, who left the Packers to join the Vikings in 2006, talked to Favre several times this summer as he mulled coming to Minnesota. By far, their longest conversation was about this particular game.

"I think it'll be different for him, but I think he'll know how to handle it," Longwell said.

Defensive end Jared Allen expects a "good harsh ripping on" from the crowd.

"I want to hear some funny stuff out there," Allen said.

Linebacker Ben Leber downplayed the possibility of nastiness at Lambeau.

"Listen, I've been a part of some Raider-Charger games, so I think I've seen the worst in the league," Leber said.

After Favre's first retirement in 2008, he tried to force his way back with the Packers, who ultimately decided he wouldn't fit anymore. Favre acknowledged Wednesday "it's probably best that things worked out the way they did."

After playing for the New York Jets last year, hanging it up and then reconsidering again to sign with the Vikings, Favre is in prime form for a talented, well-rounded team with serious Super Bowl aspirations.

That's what burns Packers fans most.

"I think our fans here in Green Bay are first class, and I think they'll do what they feel is appropriate," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said, when asked what kind of reception he thinks Favre will get.

Favre has maintained a defiant stance when asked about his deteriorating legacy in Green Bay. He repeatedly said his success there should speak for itself, and described a stream of supportive letters he's received from Packers backers since he left.

"If you're a true fan, you're a true fan," he said, adding: "The people that have jumped ship or whatever completely, what can I do? ... There was always Brett Favre haters out there, and that will never change."

Goodell defends NFL to Congress about concussions

WASHINGTON (AP)—NFL commissioner Roger Goodell did not acknowledge a connection between head injuries on the football field and later brain diseases while defending the league's policies on concussions before Congress on Wednesday.

That frustrated several members of the House Judiciary Committee, including the committee chairman, Michigan Democrat John Conyers, when Goodell told him the NFL isn't waiting for that debate to play out and is taking steps to make the game safer.

"I just asked you a simple question. What is the answer?" persisted Conyers.

Goodell replied by saying a medical expert could give a better answer than he could. But some House members complained later that Dr. Ira Casson, chairman of the NFL's committee on concussions, had not testified.

Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., gave Casson some exposure anyway, playing a clip of a TV interview in which he denied evidence of a link between multiple head injuries in NFL players with brain disorders such as dementia and Alzheimer's.

Sanchez said that reminded her of tobacco companies denying a link between smoking and health damage in the 1990s.

Goodell testified alongside new NFL Players Association leader DeMaurice Smith, who said the union "has not done its best in this area. We will do better." Both men did agree to turn over players' medical records to the committee.

In addition, Conyers wants information on head injuries from the NCAA, high schools and medical researchers to better understand football's health risks.

Still, several Republicans questioned the point of the hearing. Rep. Ted Poe of Texas said Congress' involvement in football would mean the end of the sport.

"We'd all be playing touch football," he said.

Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., whose husband played in the NFL, asked Goodell how the league was addressing the welfare of retired players during current collective bargaining negotiations.

Goodell said it's a "priority for the owners and players to take better care of our retired players," but Waters cut him off, demanding specifics.

"We've heard from the NFL time and time again - you're always 'studying,' you're always 'trying,' you're 'hopeful,'" Waters said, pointing a finger in Goodell's direction. "I want to know what are you doing ... to deal with this problems and other problems related to injuries?"

When Goodell said talks between owners and players are in the early stages, Waters said it's time "for Congress to take a look at your antitrust exemption" and that she thinks it should be removed.

A 1961 law grants professional sports leagues antitrust exemption for broadcasting. That has allowed the NFL to sign TV contracts totaling billions of dollars on behalf of all its teams, helping transform the league into the economic powerhouse it is today.

When Waters was done grilling Goodell, she walked to the back of the hearing room and greeted Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown with a hug. Other former NFL stars present included Willie Wood, who sat in his wheelchair, a few rows behind the witness table.

In his testimony, Goodell said that the league has "reduced red tape, simplified the process for applicants and their families, and sped disability determinations."

Several retired players testified at the hearing, including former fullback Merril Hoge, who said a series of concussions cost him his career. After his first concussion, he said he never saw a neurological doctor and was cleared to play five days later.

"What happened to me would not happen in the National Football League today," Hoge said. "That does not mean we are all the way there. We are on the way."

Gay Culverhouse, former president of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, said NFL team doctors are not advocates for the players and called for an independent neurologist to be on the sidelines.

Dr. Robert Cantu, co-director of Boston University's Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy, said there is "growing and convincing evidence" that repetitive concussive and subconcussive hits to the head in NFL players leads to a degenerative brain disease known as chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

"The public health risk is already here, and we cannot afford to wait any longer to make changes to the way we play sports," he said, calling for rule and technique changes.

His colleague at the center, Dr. Ann McKee, showed the committee images of brains of dead football players with CTE.

"We need to take radical steps" to change the way football is played, she said.

Dick Benson told the committee about the death of his 17-year-old son, Will, a high school quarterback in Austin, Texas, several weeks after a helmet-to-helmet hit in 2002. The following year, Benson founded the Will Benson Foundation for Sports Safety. He said the game needs to be changed to reduce physical contact, especially helmet-to-helmet contact.

"My one request is," he said, pausing to sob, "don't let it happen again."

Former running back Tiki Barber said he was concerned that high school players don't have the medical access that pros do.

"My ask of you is that you find a way to mandate that every high school athletic program has access to medical doctors who can diagnose, understand and treat concussions," he said.

Chamolinian softball meeting Nov. 6

The Chamolinian Softball Association is calling on representatives of interested teams in the 2009 Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League to attend a meeting on Nov. 6 at 6pm at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Details about the opening of the league and other important matters will be discussed at the meeting.

The league, which will have competitions both in the men's and women's divisions, will kick off on Nov. 16 at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

League coordinator Joey Dela Cruz said only the first 15 teams to register and pay the entrance fee ($400) on or before Nov. 9 will be allowed to play in the men's division. In the women's division, only the first five squads to sign-up and settle the registration fee will be included on the list.

To register or for more information, contact Joey Dela Cruz at 483-4185, B.J. Attao at 285-2826, or Liz Palacios at 287-8869. ***(PR)***

WORLD

From Page 40

time, the playoffs prove the old baseball axiom that good pitching beats good hitting. Could be a classic with three Lee vs. Sabathia duels if the series goes the distance.

I checked tickets for sale the night before game one on StubHub. Two nosebleed seats in the outfield could be had for $580. Field level seats in the special Legends section behind home plate were yours for only $9,500 each. A family of four could have sat there for a measly $38,000. For that money, the ticket holder should be able to take the seat home.

I see that not all of those seats were filled during Game 1 just as they were not for earlier playoff games in Yankee stadium. For some reason, it bothers me that to see the best seats in the house empty for this historic event at the same time the other sections are completely filled. Yes, a new attendance record was announced but my eyes are not fooled. Someone owned tickets to those prime seats and didn't bother to attend. Why not give them to some orphans who would have treasured that for the rest of their lives?

Another thing that bugs me is watching baseball played in cold weather. As a kid in Florida, we wouldn't play ball if it got below, say 65 degrees. It was too cold for us to grip the bat or catch a hardball. That's tackle football weather. People wearing fur coats, wool beanies and hand muffs belong in Antarctica, not a baseball stadium.

If the Series goes to a full seven games, the final will be on Nov. 5, the latest end ever to a major league season. By then Christmas decorations will be up. Don't be surprised if the Phillies give themselves a reason to celebrate early.

HEO

From Page 40

ung-dong, Seogwipo, Jeju-do for the Asian/Oceania Closed Championships 2009, which will run from Nov. 3 to 8 at the Seogwipo Tennis Courts.

He will leave Gimcheon tomorrow and meet CNMI coach Jeff Race in Jeju airport on Nov. 1. In Korea, Race will be coaching Heo and two other Pacific-Oceania netters, Samoa's Kim Carruthers, and Papua New Guinea's Abigal Tere-Apisah.

The tournament next month will be Heo's biggest so far, as it is a Grade B1 event, which awards the most ranking points among the regional championships in the Junior ITF Circuit calendar.

The winner in the singles division of the B1 event will get 180 points, 120 for finalists, 80 for semifinalists, 60 for quarterfinalists, 30 for losers in the Round of 16, and 20 for the losers in the Round of 32. Heo is in the main draw of the 64-man singles event and one win will earn him 20 ranking points.

The tournament in Jeju-do will be Heo's first, too after competing in the two other events in Korea in September and having a dismal showing due to a strained back he sustained while playing in Fiji.

"I haven't played in five weeks so I was not in good condition when I first came here. However, I am feeling like I'm getting back to form. I'm just playing lots of games this week so I could get my confidence back and play the type of tough game I used to play before. It's very disappointing that I felt really good going to Fiji then I injured my back," Heo said.

In the 2009 Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Fiji in August this year, Heo was pitted against world No. 412 Andrew McLeod of Australia in the opening round and lost. He later withdrew from his remaining match in the loser's bracket due to a strained back.

"With my training in Korea, I hope to have a good showing in this Junior ITF event. I am positive about my chances here and I will give my best shot in every game," Heo added.

DCCA

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DCCA led by only four at halftime, 46-42, and almost lost the driver's seat if not for Romeo Iginoef's five straight points down the stretch.

Hotshot Taj Van Buren opened the third period with a reverse layup then went on to connect several shots from downtown to lead DCCA's breakaway. Van Buren drilled four triples in the third canto and DCCA tasted its biggest lead at 70-52, going into the last three minutes of that period.

While Van Buren was busy hitting baskets beyond the arc, Ponce Rasa and Iginoef took care of DCCA's inside game with their slashing underneath the basket plays. Rasa and Iginoef combined for 15 of DCCA's 32 points in the third quarter.

Holding a comfortable 73-55 lead, entering the final quarter, DCCA had a luxury of pulling up for leisurely taken jumpers with Peter Camacho on the connecting end most of the time. Camacho buried three straight jumpers at one point in the fourth quarter.

Even female player Melody Matson had her moments in DCCA's big second-half game, as her dribbling skills and pinpoint passing drew cheers from the crowd, Matson finished in double figures with 10 points, capping her impressive performance with a 2-for-2 clip from the 15-foot line.

Van Buren paced DCCA with 21 points, while Iginoef had 19. Three more DCCA players contributed double figures with Rasa nailing 15, Peter Camacho notching 14, and Ano Benavente adding 10.

Jason Lizama led Customs with 16 points, while Dennis Reyes chipped in 73.

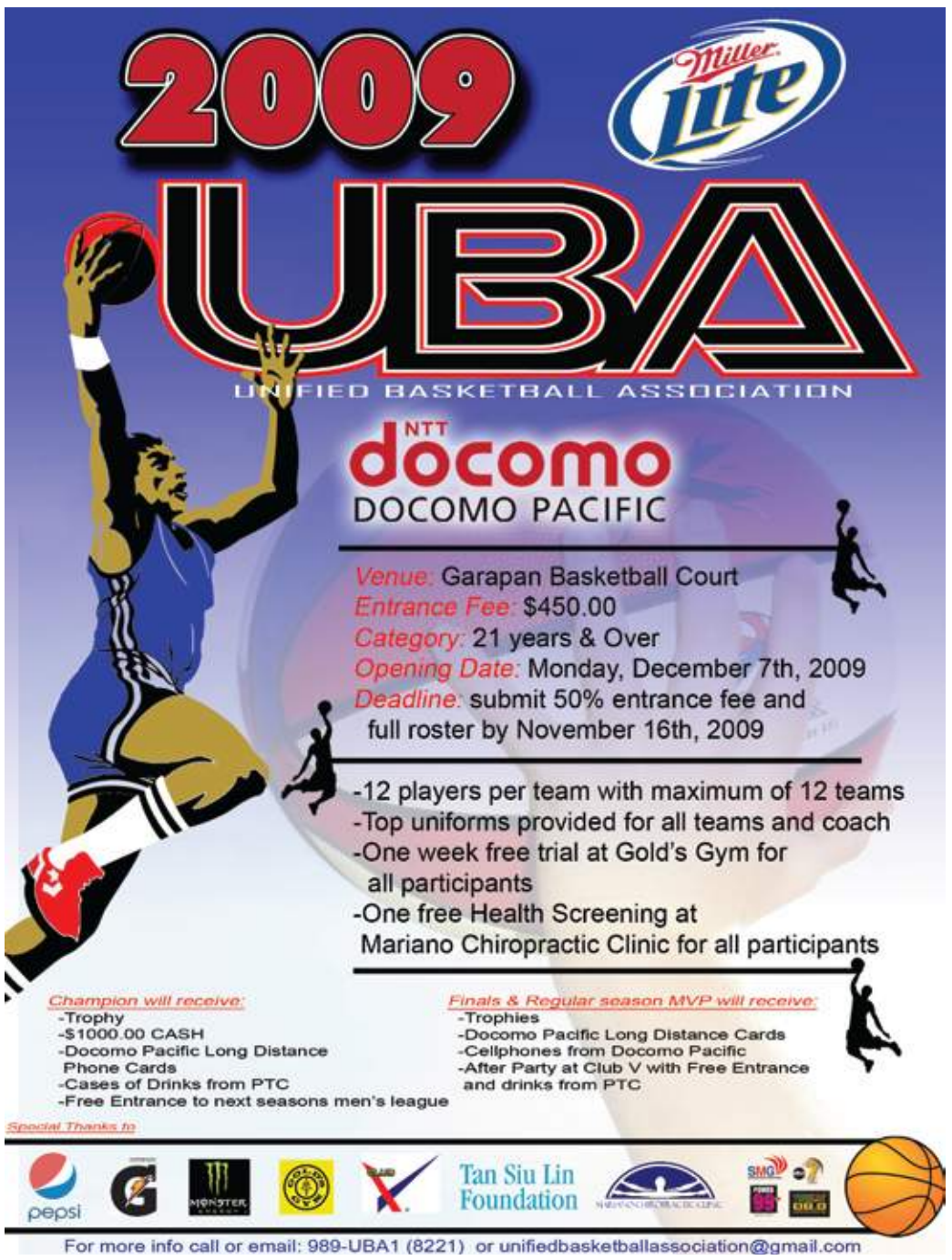
Meanwhile, Hyatt Regency Saipan defeated Bank of Guam in the second game to move a win away from claiming the pennant. Hyatt, which holds a 9-1 record, will play its last game next month against Docomo.

If Hyatt wins against Docomo, the former will tie IT&E for the No. 1 spot. In the tiebreak, Hyatt has the edge because it downed IT&E in their lone meeting in the regular season.

DCCA 97 – Van Buren 21, Iginoef 19, Rasa 15, P.camacho 14, Benavente 10, Matson 10, Rogolifoi 6, Igitol 2.

Customs 73 – J. Lizama 16, D. Reyes 14, Ja. Sablan 9, L. Reyes 9, Maratita 8, Ton 7, R.lizama 4, Santos 4, Tesero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-23, 46-42, 77-58, 97-73.


2009
Miller Lite
UBA
UNIFIED BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
NTT docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC
Venue: Garapan Basketball Court
Entrance Fee: $450.00
Category: 21 years & Over
Opening Date: Monday, December 7th, 2009
Deadline: submit 50% entrance fee and full roster by November 16th, 2009
-12 players per team with maximum of 12 teams
-Top uniforms provided for all teams and coach
-One week free trial at Gold's Gym for all participants
-One free Health Screening at Mariano Chiropractic Clinic for all participants
Champion will receive:
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-$1000.00 CASH
-Docomo Pacific Long Distance Phone Cards
-Cases of Drinks from PTC
-Free Entrance to next seasons men's league
Finals & Regular season MVP will receive:
-Trophies
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ROGOLIFOI

From Page 40

cussed at the meeting include preparations for the opening of the 2010 SLLB season, fundraising activities for the CNMI District Tournament and Asia Pacific Regional Tournament, and other concerns about the development of the Little Little program on Saipan.

The 2010 season of the Saipan Little League Baseball is expected to kick off in the first quarter of next year with SLLB expecting more than 500 18-and-under players competing in the Majors, Juniors, Seniors, and Big League divisions.

Ol'Aces are next season's defending champion in the Majors, as they edged the San Antonio Dragons, 6-5 in the finals with Virolanson Secharmidal scoring a walk-off single.

In the Big League, the Falcons' Ben Cabrera also connected on a walk-off single to power his team to a 6-5 victory over the Fielders in the finals.

The Patriots took the pennant in the Junior League and nailed an 8-4 title triumph over Ol'Aces in the finals, while the Fielders secured the Senior League championship after a lopsided 10-0 win over Kagman Lion Kings.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	2	0	1.000	–
Toronto	1	0	1.000	1/2
New Jersey	0	1	.000	1 1/2
New York	0	1	.000	1 1/2
Philadelphia	0	1	.000	1 1/2

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	0	1.000	–
Miami	1	0	1.000	–
Orlando	1	0	1.000	–
Washington	1	0	1.000	–
Charlotte	0	1	.000	1

Central Division

Detroit	1	0	1.000	–
Chicago	0	0	.000	1/2
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	1/2
Indiana	0	1	.000	1
Cleveland	0	2	.000	1 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	1	0	1.000	–
Houston	1	1	.500	1/2
Dallas	0	1	.000	1
Memphis	0	1	.000	1
New Orleans	0	1	.000	1

Northwest Division

Denver	1	0	1.000	–
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	–
Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	–
Portland	1	0	1.000	–
Utah	0	1	.000	1

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	–
Phoenix	1	0	1.000	–
Golden State	0	1	.000	1
Sacramento	0	1	.000	1
L.A. Clippers	0	2	.000	1 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 120, Indiana 109
Orlando 120, Philadelphia 106
Toronto 101, Cleveland 91
Boston 92, Charlotte 59
Miami 115, New York 93
Detroit 96, Memphis 74
Minnesota 95, New Jersey 93
San Antonio 113, New Orleans 96
Oklahoma City 102, Sacramento 89
Denver 114, Utah 105
Phoenix 109, L.A. Clippers 107
Houston 108, Golden State 107

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	10	1
Hyatt	9	1
Tinian	5	2
Docomo	5	3
PSS	7	4
CPA	6	5
MBI	5	5
CHC	3	5
BOG	4	7
DCCA	4	7
Customs	1	8
ARFF	0	10

SEDA STANDINGS

Masters Division

D' Pirate's M- Destroyers	93	60
Oleai Snipers	89	64
Jonny's Black Stallions	81	55
VFW Angry Dragons	78	75
Bud's Brothers M	53	83
Oleai D' Companeros	48	105

A Division

Jonny's Black Stallions Jr.	91	62
Naked Fish Boyz	87	66
Jonny's Load Up	83	70
Bud's FUJIN	79	74
D' Pirates 101 Proofers	78	75
Bud's Brothers A	70	83
Bud's Enforcer	69	67
Bud's No Name	38	98

Tuesday B

D' Pirates CK-Destroyers	86	46
VFW Naughty Boyz	79	56
D' Pirates B Destroyers	75	60
Jonny's Samurai	54	81
Bud's Bar Pure Budz	54	81
Bud's Bring it on 1	54	81

Thursday B

Buds Brothers B	101	49
Buds Bring it on 11	87	63
Naked Man F.O.T.T.E	83	67
Remington Naughty Boyz	82	68
USSP No Fear	81	69
Bud's B-Bwiibwis	78	72
VFW Dutty Gunz	71	79
The Flair Salut Balut	70	80
Snicker N' Tuna Lights Out	49	101
The Flair Get Sum	48	102

C Kingfisher

Jonny's Wasabe	98	37
USSP Young Gunz	93	52
Bar Gaia Gaiana	81	54
VFW One Shot	72	63
Jonny's ADH	71	64
BYE	0	135

C Chichirika

Bud's Bwiibwis C	81	54
Snicker's Lucky Shot	77	58
Bud's Darty Deeds	71	64
Bud's C - Bwiibwis	66	54
D' Pirates Sang	56	64
USSP Bomsoro	39	96

Ladies

VFW Yakau	65	40
Tijuana B-52 Shooters	60	45
Jonny's.Com	52	53
Snicker's Mama Snipers	42	48
Bud's Bwiibwis Mermaid	36	69

SBA STANDINGS

Agingan Division

Utopia NTT Docomo Hustlers	60	17
Jonny's IT&E Voyagers	59	16
D' Pirates Huwa	46	31
Round Perfect Spotters	38	39
Jonny's Home Boys	35	42

Obyan Division

USSP Watever	36	41
Wild Bill's Shark Attack	35	32
USSP Fotten Palau	35	42
D' Pirates 8 Ballers	27	50
VFW "Sentinel"	14	63

Phillies or Yankees? Local fans take their pick

By MARK RABAGO
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AND

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REPORTER

Traditional rival cities with a not-so traditional rivalry in baseball are facing off in the 2009 World Series.

While the NFL's Giants and Eagles fans hate each other like they love their cheesecakes and cheesesteaks, respectively, no acrimony really exists between Phillies and Yankees fans.

And while the Knicks and the 76ers battled it out for Eastern Conference supremacy in the '80s and '90s with the likes of Charles Barkley, Julius "Dr. J" Erving, Allen Iverson, Patrick Ewing, Mark Jackson, and Allan Houston starring for their respective teams, the Yankees were the Alpha Dog to the Phillies also-rans in those years.

This year's Major League Baseball finals will be between the defending champions against the team with the most championships.

We took a survey on what MLB team Saipan pro baseball aficionados are leaning toward this World Series and these are what they have to say:

■ ■ ■

Phillies. Four reasons: Brad Lidge, Cliff Lee, Ryan Howard, and they are the defending World Series champs

Jonathan Perez
Former *Saipan Tribune* sports reporter

Yankees!!!!!

I've been a Yankee fan ever since I can remember anything about baseball. It's going to be the men in the pinstripe suits drinking champagne, again.

Jim Feger
Rocball creator

I like rooting for a winner. Over the last century, (longer than we've been keeping accurate weather records that global warming alarmists scream about) the Yankees have won the World Series about 25 percent of the time. No other team even comes close. They have consistently done this by attracting the best personnel to play the game and to manage the club. Mickey Mantle, Babe Ruth, and scores of other top-of-the-line players have played for the pinstripers. I don't like N.Y. City much, but I sure like to root for the N.Y. Yankees.

Bruce Bateman
Marianas Visitors Authority

I'm going for the New York Yankees. They have good players that can deliver like Jeter, A-Rod and Co. Their pitching is pretty good with CC and Mariano. My guess will be Yankess, 4-2.

Abner Venus
Basketball Association of the Northern Marianas Islands

This is easy! When it comes to sports, I'm a loyal fan. For basketball, I'm a Lakers fan. For football, I'm a Raiders fan. For baseball, I'm a diehard Yankees fan. When you talk about baseball, the Yankees are always a part of it and with this series, they'll add another history and legacy to their book. You got Jeter, A-Rod, Damon, Matsui, Pettitte, Rivera, just to name a few. I don't see why anyone who wouldn't want to be a Yankees fan. The Phillies are a good team so I'll give six games before Yankees take the series. Too bad Joe Torre isn't there anymore. I've always like that guy.

James Lee
NTT Docomo Pacific

I'll be for the Yanks!

But both clubs are well stocked with firepower. Yankees had the best home record, and Phillies had the best road record. This will be a fun one to watch as it might go all the way to the last game with the Yankees taking it. The impact players will come down to the pitchers of both teams. Equally good, but Mariano Rivera of the Yankees has that perfect, 90mph fastball, that closes shop most of the time.

Ed Arriola
Tan Holdings

I will go for the Yankees, as every time I watch their game on TV, they always win. My husband also wants Alex Rodriguez to have a World Series ring.

Liz Palacios
Softball league coordinator

I hate the Yankees, so I will go for the Phillies. The Phillies don't have high-profile and highly paid players, but still they made it to the top. The World Series will be like a small farm club (Phillies) going up against a $200M club. The Phillies will take it in Game 7.

Joey Dela Cruz
Softball tournament coordinator

I will go for the Yankees, as they have the best record this season, plus they have an impressive record in the World Series. They won big time in the free agency with the acquisition of C.C. Sabathia and company and these players brought them back to the World Series.

Jess Wabol
Golfer/baseball coach

I am a Boston Red Sox fan, but since they did not make it to the World Series this year, I will go for the Phillies. They can really match up well against the Yankees. They have strong pitchers and hitters. They are the defending champion, so it's an advantage, too, as the Yankess have never been into the World Series since 2003.

Tony Rogolifoi
SLLB president

I am pulling for the Phillies. I am not much of a fan of either team. Yankees try and buy their championships, making it nearly impossible for small market teams to compete on long-term basis. My hope is that a salary cap similar to the NFL will level the playing field. Philly seems to have "home grown" most of their team.

Russ Quinn
Triathlon federation president

Bud's Brothers B passes century mark

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Bud's Brothers B became the first team to reach the century mark in the 2009 Bud Light/Saipan Electronic Dart Association League.

Bud's Brothers B even passed the 100-win mark when it improved to a 101-49 record after last Friday's games at the various bars and watering holes on Saipan.

Its more than 100 wins helped Bud's Brothers B keep the No. 1 spot in the Thursday B division, 14 victories ahead of second-running Buds Bring it on 11, which holds an 87-63 slate.

Eight other teams are playing in the Thursday B division. They are Naked Man F.O.T.T.E (83-67), Remington Naughty Boyz (82-68), USSP No Fear (81-69), Bud's B-Bwiibwis (78-72), VFW Dutty Gunz (71-79), The Flair Salut Balut (70-80), Snicker N' Tuna Lights Out (49-101), and The Flair Get Sum (48-102).

In the Masters and Tuesday B divisions, D' Pirates supported-M Destroyers and CK Destroyers are leading the pack.

D' Pirates M-Destroyers are seven wins behind the century mark with their 93-60 record. Just trailing by four wins are second placers Oleai Snipers (89-64). The Jonny's Black Stallions are in third place in the Masters division with their 81-55 slate, followed by VFW Angry Dragons (78-75), Bud's Brothers M (53-83), and Oleai D' Companeros (48-105).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of Tuesday B leaders D' Pirates CK-Destroyers pose for a group photo before their game in the 2009 Bud Light/Saipan Electronic Dart Association League last week.

D' Pirates CK-Destroyers are leading five other teams in the Tuesday B division. Their 86-46 record gave them a seven-win lead against VFW Naughty Boyz (79-56). Completing the standings are D' Pirates B Destroyers (75-60), Jonny's Samurai (54-81), Bud's Bar Pure Budz (54-81), and Bud's Bring it on 1 (54-81).

In the A division, Jonny's Black Stallions Jr. remained at the top of the team standings with their 91-62 record. Not far behind with an 87-66 mark is Naked Fish Boyz. Other teams entered in the A division and their team standings in parentheses are Jonny's Load Up (83-70), Bud's FUJIN (79-74), D' Pirates 101 Proofers (78-75), Bud's Brothers A (70-83), Bud's Enforcer (69-67), and Bud's No Name (38-98).

Two wins away from reaching the century mark is Jonny's Wasabe, which leads the C Kingfisher division with its 98-37 slate. USSP Young Gunz is closing in with its 93-52 record, while third placer Bar Gaia Gaiana holds an 81-54 mark. Completing the C Kingfisher division are VFW One Shot (72-63), Jonny's ADH (71-64), and BYE (0-135).

In the C Chichirika division, only four victories are separating leader Bud's Bwiibwis C and second-ranked Snicker's Lucky Shot with the former holding an 81-54 slate against the latter's 77-58 record. Bud's Darty Deeds are in third place with a 71-64 slate, followed by Bud's C-Bwiibwis (66-54), D' Pirates Sang (56-64), and USSP Bomsoro (39-96).

VFW Yakau strengthened its hold to the top spot in the Ladies division after improving to a 65-40 record. There's a new second placer in the Ladies division in Tijuana B-52 Shooters, who have a 60-45 slate. Dropping from second to third was Jonny's.Com (52-53), followed by Snicker's Mama Snipers (42-48) and Bud's Bwiibwis Mermaid (36-69).

USSP Watever reclaims 8-ball lead

USSP Watever returned to the top of the team standings in the Obyan division of the 2009 SBA Budweiser Open 8-Ball League, following a close win last Tuesday.

USSP Watever pulled off a 4-3 triumph over USSP Fotten Palau in Week 11 matches to improve to a 36-41 record, a win ahead of Week 10 leader Wild Bill's Shark Attack.

Shark Attack's stint at the No. 1 spot did not last long, as it bowed to Agingan leader NTT Docomo Hustlers, 5-2.

The loss dropped Shark Attack to a 35-42 record and tied the team for second to third place with USSP Fotten Palau.

The two other teams in the Obyan division also lost their Week 11 games with D'Pirates 8 Ballers bowing to Jonny's IT&E Voyagers, 1-6, and VFW Sentinel losing to Round Perfect Spotters, 0-7.

D'Pirates 8 Ballers are in fourth place with their 27-50 record, while Sentinel is still at the bottom of the team standings with its 14-63 slate.

In the Obyan division, Jonny's IT&E Voyagers moved closer to league-leading Hustlers.

The Voyagers' 6-1 triumph over the D' Pirates 8 Ballers gave them a 59-18 mark, behind by only one win over the Hustlers, who hold a 60-17 record.

D'Pirates Huwa moved up from fourth to third place and has a 46-31 slate after a 5-2 win over Jonny's Home Boys. Occupying the fourth and fifth sports are Round Perfect Spotters (38-39) and Jonny's Home Boys (35-42), respectively.

In the individual contest, the Hustlers' Jerry Soriano topped the run-the-rack category, anew, posting six, while Nolan Cultura made four. Jojo Talibong, R.J. Mascarinas, and Patrick Taitano had two apiece, while Eric Caisip, Juancho Mendoza, Chester Hamoy, Patrick Cepeda, Rowel Mariano, Ben Norita, John Mongami, Roman Rodriguez, Nolas Kalinga, and Erwin Gomez tallied one each.

Mongami drilled three 8-ball-on-the breaks, while Hamoy, Talibong, James Wabinga, and Marlito Baisaule recorded one apiece. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo).***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Ken Phillips of USSP Watever in action during their game against USSP Fotten Palau in the Obyan division of the 2009 SBA Budweiser Open 8-Ball League last Tuesday.

Phillies or Yankees? Local fans make their pick

While the NFL's Giants and Eagles fans hate each other like they love their cheesecakes and cheesesteaks, respectively, no acrimony really exists between Phillies and Yankees fans.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lee, Utley, Phils top Yanks in World Series opener

The ho-hum catch that tickled his teammates, the behind-the-back snag that looked so easy.

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Heo intensifies training in Korea

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior tennis player Ji Hoon Heo is undergoing rigorous training in Korea in time for the 2009 Asian/Oceania Closed Championships.

"I train from 8:30am until 5:30pm and sessions consist of training with therabands, lots of plyometrics, and core workouts. We also do swimming and track running every Wednesday and Thursdays and hit a slot of balls," said Heo, who left Saipan early this month to train in one of the top tennis academies in the country.

Theraband is a type of exercise that uses bands and tubing to allow strength professionals and many top athletes to add resistance in multiple directions, something free weights and machines can't do. Plyometrics is designed to produce fast, powerful movements, and improve the functions of the nervous system, generally for the purpose of improving performance in sports.

"We use those shopping carts and we would at an average hit about 12 of those full baskets. The training here is intense and I haven't had a day here where I was not sore," the Marianas High School student added.

After completing his training in Gimcheon, Heo's will head to Donghe-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Ji Hoon Heo, left, and CNMI coach Jeff Race will be in Jeju-do, Korea next month for the 2009 Asian/Oceania Closed Championships.

DCCA snaps skid in govt/biz caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs ended its losing skid via a 97-73 demolition of Customs in their game in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win was only fourth for DCCA and the team finished the round-robin regular season at the bottom half of the 12-squad field with its 4-7 mark. Customs had a worse record at 1-8.

DCCA won by 24 points after Customs brought down its guard in the second half, allowing the former to walk away with easy fastbreak layups and open jumpers.

Customs kept DCCA at bay in the first period behind the former's four triples. Jason Lizama hit two early treys, Jason Sablan and Luis Reyes had one each, and Dennis Reyes added six markers to move Customs within three, 23-26.

Customs stayed in the game in the second period, as Lizama and company continued to find their marks.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
DCCA's Ando Benavente pulls up for a running jumper against Customs' Jason Sablan, left, and Ryan Sablan during their game in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rogolifoi is new SLLB president

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former Division of Sports and Recreation director Tony Rogolifoi will take the helm at the Saipan Little League Baseball next season, following his election as president of the association.

Rogolifoi and six others were elected as new officers of the SLLB during an election held mid this month. Joining Rogolifoi at the SLLB board are Ben Jones, vice president; Rose Igitol, secretary; Walter Macaranas, players agent; Claudio Guerrero, safety officer; Ben Taitano, statistician; and Piding Tenorio, umpire coordinator.

Rogolifoi

The new SLLB president, who replaced Mike Borja, said they had already elected a treasurer, but the selected individual begged off due to other commitments. Rogolifoi added the board will meet next month and appoint a treasurer.

Meanwhile, Rogoligoi is calling on coaches, managers, or representatives of interested teams to attend a meeting on Nov. 4 at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rogolifoi said matters to be dis-

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World serious

The Dynasty vs. Lifetime Losers. That would be one way to characterize this World Series if you just got back to civilization after spending the last few years on Alamagan.

It's still taking some time for me to erase the mental image of "losers" whenever I think of the Philadelphia Phillies. After all, they are the losingest team in major league history. The most head-scratching statistic I heard this week was that if the New York Yankees lost every game for the next 16 years, they still would not have more losses than the Phils. They were the sorriest team when I was growing up and ya'll know about first impressions.

As the expression goes, these are not your father's Phillies.

But Philly is the defending champion and that's all that matters. Until the end of this season anyway.

The Yankees opened the series as 8:5 favorites. They mashed everyone so far.

Game 1 featured two former Indian teammates, Clifton Phifer Lee and Carsten Charles Sabathia who own two Cy Young awards over the last two seasons. Cleveland could have won the AL Central division this year with those two studs. Makes me yearn for their general manager job. Don't forget: Cleveland was one game away from beating out the Red Sox for the World Series two years ago and the Red Sox went on to demolish Colorado.

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

Not surprisingly, the opening tilt was a pitcher's duel despite the fact that both lineups are chock full of home run hitters. Time after

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